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No people are so much interested in the acquirement and diffusion of geographical knowledge as those of the British Empire; their ships are in every part of the world, and raw materials, which were unknown, are now daily brought from every sea and from every land; their manufactures are scattered over the face of the globe; each new geographical discovery opens a new market for their merchants; and not a shore nor a coast can be explored without the Arctic Pole to the Torrid Regions of Africa, and a new field is opened for their enterprise, and a new interest given to their industry.

The Colonies of Great Britain girdle the earth. In every country and in every clime the English race are either temporarily or permanently settled, and there is scarcely a family of household which has not a hundred or more persons in it; and for this reason, the English are, even amongst their educated classes, who have a proper knowledge of the geographical position of the countries, the habits, the names of the people, the productions, and climate of the spots wherein their friends or relatives are dwellers.

Our extended Empire, our rapid sea and land communications, our political influence, and every other element of power, depend upon the extent of our knowledge of the world, and upon the mode of cheap and easy access to the stores of information which have been collected, not only by our own countrymen, but by all civilized nations, with reference to the globe we inhabit, its geography and hydrography, its people, its climates, and its productions. No man, who is interested in the fate of his country, can afford to leave these objects and this information attainable by the general public. Learned Societies have made large and valuable collections, but these have never been available to the great mass of people. It is now proposed not to interfere with the operations of these learned bodies, but rather to extend their usefulness by giving to the public the same information which has hitherto been confined to the few.

The erection of the large Model of the Earth in Leicester-square is the object of an ancient and noble Society, the object of which is to collect and exhibit in a suitable place, the works of ancient and modern masters, models, specimens, and books relating to geography—the admission of the public at a small charge, and to give a general course of lectures, and to establish a library, in which the works of all the great writers on the subject will be collected, and to invite the assistance of Foreign Governments and Societies to contribute all their maps, charts, and geographical works, published under the sanction of the State (many of whom have already kindly offered them), and to establish a Museum of Mankind. Lecture Theatres will be built, in which regular Courses of Lectures and Demonstrations will be given in Physical Geography; upon Man in relation to the World he inhabits, and upon matters of general Geography, Hydrography, and Ethnology. In addition to the scientific, artistic, and literary Societies, whose pursuits are in union with the special object of the Cosmos Institute, will also be erected.

It is proposed to extend the plan of the present Institution in Leicester-square, to cover nearly the whole area with suitable buildings, embracing large rooms and galleries, in which shall be arranged the characteristic costumes and products of every country, and in which other rooms will be used to establish a Museum of Mankind. Lecture Theatres will be built, in which regular Courses of Lectures and Demonstrations will be given in Physical Geography; upon Man in relation to the World he inhabits, and upon matters of general Geography, Hydrography, and Ethnology.

Whilst it is intended to maintain the Large Model of the Earth in its present position, it is proposed to add to the present building a series of rooms for modern maps, charts, and books, all the maps, charts, and geographical works published throughout the world; and to invite the assistance of Foreign Governments and Societies to contribute all their maps, charts, and geographical works, published under the sanction of the State (many of whom have already kindly offered them), and to establish a Museum of Mankind, will be used to collect the best sources of information on every subject connected with Geography, Hydrography, and the allied sciences.

It is further proposed to maintain a complete body of Demonstrators and Lecturers, who will deliver regular Courses of Lectures upon Physical and Political Geography and Ethnology, not only within the Model, but also in the Theatres of the Institute, so as to embrace all the requirements of a great geographical school; shall hold meetings of the members, at which scientific papers shall be read and discussed; and to uphold a library and reading-room, where the most important newspapers, English, foreign, and colonial, will be laid, where the maps, charts, engravings, books, and transactions of learned Societies can be conveniently consulted.

and where the latest information bearing upon geographical discoveries, and all matters especially relating to new shores, rocks, and harbours, will be regularly exhibited. In the execution of the present plan within the proposed buildings, ample space will enable the Institute to fill up a great public want—viz., an immense public reference to all the Government publications, the Admiralty charts, the Colonial surveys, the Parliamentary maps, and maps published by geographical societies—by combining the highest aims of science, and the most profound researches, the means of diffusing information and instruction to the humblest inquirer.

The Capital of the Institute is fixed at 50,000, which will be apportioned in proportion to the interest of Mr. Wyld, in the area of Leicester-square, in the model buildings, and other alterations at present existing in the building; and in making great alterations and additions to the present structure, and completing the collections of costumes, maps, charts, models, and books. It is expected that this amount will be ample sufficient for these purposes.

It is proposed that this capital shall be divided into 50,000 shares of 1s. each.

Every shareholder will be entitled to a personal admission to the Executive Room, to the general Lectures, and to all the privileges of the Institute, subject to the direction of the Executive Council.

By these means the advantages of the Institute will be extended to all classes. Every holder of 20 shares will be entitled to write one admission each day; but no holder of more than 100 shares shall be entitled to issue more than five such admissions of the same day.

The privilege attaching to the holders of shares will be only transferable for one year, viz., on the 6th of January and 6th of July.

The shares to be payable upon final registration.

It is proposed, that after payment of dividends, any surplus of the income of the Institute shall be devoted to the promotion of Science, in connection with the Institute, in such manner as the Council may determine.

On a low estimate, founded on the experience of the last two years, during which the Model of the Earth has been constantly exhibited, and the income of the Institute considered, the additional sources of revenue now for the first year opened, it appears that an annual return exceeding 4,000, may be expected, after payment of the incidental expenses.

It is intended to apply for a Royal Charter, or for a special Act of Parliament for incorporation.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, AUGUST 27, 1853.

## REVIEWS

*Mount Lebanon: a Ten Years' Residence, from 1842 to 1852; describing the Manners, Customs, and Religion of its Inhabitants; with a full and correct Account of the Druse Religion, and containing Historical Records of the Mountain Tribes.* By Col. Churchill, Staff Officer on the British Expedition to Syria. 3 vols. Saunders & Otley.

AUTHORS are naturally disposed to exaggerate the importance of the subjects which they happen themselves to have taken up for elucidation; and few travellers reside for any considerable time in any part of the world without finding certain aspects in which that part of the world may be represented as commanding especial interest and attention from politicians and philanthropists. In the present state of universal excitement, however, relative to the affairs of the East,—and considering how many speculative minds are already engaged on the question as to what is to become of Turkey, either now, or at some future time,—we do not think that there is much real exaggeration in the following passage in Col. Churchill's preface, bespeaking the interest of English readers in the subject of his book.—

"A general, and possibly not incorrect belief is now prevalent, that a revolution of hitherto unprecedented magnitude is closely impending over these interesting regions [of the East]; one by which they will at length be made amenable to the vivifying impulses of social and political amelioration—one, in fact, which will deliver them from the bonds of death unto life. Whatever part England may take in the temporary complication of affairs which will probably ensue on that mighty consummation, which the timid dictates of diplomacy would defer, but which the urgent demands of humanity and civilization would fain accelerate, it must, for obvious reasons, be clear to every English mind, that if England's Oriental supremacy is to be upheld, Syria and Egypt must be made to fall more or less under her sway or influence. Napoleon declared Acre to be the key to the East, and most correctly did his military genius appreciate the importance of that land into which he vainly sought to enter, as a basis of operations against our Indian empire. But if the walls of Acre contained the germ of destinies so glorious to England's enemies—and who shall say the vision was chimerical?—how much more so Mount Lebanon, that great natural fortress which stands midway between the Eastern and the Western world! I call upon my countrymen, therefore, to adopt this political doctrine, and nail it to the National colours: —That when Mount Lebanon ceases to be Turkish, it must either become English, or else form part of a new independent State, which, without the incentives to territorial aggrandizement, or the means of military aggression, shall yet be able to maintain its own honour and dignity, and more especially to promote the great object for which it will be called into existence, for which, indeed, by its geographical position, it will be so eminently qualified—that of creating, developing, and upholding a commercial intercourse in the East, which shall draw together and unite the hitherto divergent races of mankind in the humanizing relations of fraternity and peace. It is, indeed, the firm conviction that Syria must ere long attract a large share of public attention in England, which has induced me to publish the result of my studies and personal experience, in that part of it with which circumstances have rendered me particularly familiar, and whose past history as well as present state and condition I have honestly, though perhaps rashly, aspired to elucidate."

The popular idea called up by the name Mount Lebanon is, we are afraid, one not easily reconcileable with the tone of the foregoing passage. Lest any of our readers, therefore, should entertain this idea,—and, fancying Mount Lebanon to be nothing more than a tolerably sized

hill in Syria, with cedars on the top of it, should be puzzling themselves with the question how this hill can be of so much political importance,—we will let Col. Churchill describe what Mount Lebanon really is.—

"Mount Lebanon, or the White Mountain, is strictly speaking, as has been already observed, that part of the great range extending from Egypt to the Taurus, which embraces the district of Bisherry. Modern political divisions have, however, extended this appellation to a wider tract of country. In the north, this tract is bounded by Djebel-Turbul, above Tripoli; to the south, by Djebel-Reehan, above Sidon; the Mediterranean limits it on the west; and the valley of the Bekaa, or Celo-Syria on the east. It is about one hundred miles in length, and from twenty-five to thirty miles in breadth. Its population, by the latest census, may be computed in round numbers at four hundred thousand."

—A map prefixed to the first volume, and entitled 'Map of the Mountain Range of the Lebanon, as surveyed by the Staff Officers in the British Expedition to Syria in 1840,' serves to give a better idea of the extent and physical nature of the district to which Col. Churchill wishes to draw the attention of Englishmen.

The mountain-range of the Lebanon has in all ages been a refuge for such of the inhabitants of Syria as have felt themselves oppressed by the chronic despotism of Eastern rule. At present, though nominally a portion of the dominions of the Turkish Sultan, and, as such, included in one of the Syrian pashalicks,—it is in many respects an independent little territory, with peculiar manners, customs, traditions, and modes of government. The natural division of the inhabitants of all Syria, and indeed of all Turkey, as is well known, is into *Mohammedans* (called *Turks*, though the vast majority are of Arabic or Semitic descent, and not Turks proper),—and *Christians*:—the Christians being again subdivided into Christians of the Greek or Eastern, and Christians of the Latin or Western Communion. In the Lebanon district more especially so called, however, this division exists in a more express and remarkable form; the inhabitants, as a whole, belonging either to the strange Mohammedan sect of the *Druses*, or to the peculiar Christian sect of the *Maronites*. Col. Churchill's work contains a full account of the history, tenets, organization, and habits of both these sections of the population of Lebanon, interspersed with remarks on their relations to Syria and to the East generally.

The larger proportion of the work is devoted to the history and social condition of the *Druses*. The portion of Lebanon inhabited by the *Druses* is the more southern portion—lying east and south-east from Beyrouth; but the whole of Lebanon, including the district inhabited by the *Maronites*, is under the government of the Emir or Prince of the *Druses*. The origin of the name, religion, and social organization of the *Druses* has been a subject of much discussion,—the *Druses* themselves throwing as much of mystery as they can over their own history and tenets. The following is Col. Churchill's summary of the facts, so far as they can be traced.—

"It is well known, that the Mohammedan world did not long preserve that singleness of purpose and consistency of doctrine, which characterized its first appearance on the great stage of affairs. The path of fame which Mohammed had trod, was soon crowded with competitors grasping at the wreath of immortality, by similar attempts on the pliability of the human mind. In the words of the poet, he was one of 'the madmen who have made men mad by their contagion'; and many and various were the founders of sects and systems, which sprung up under his influence and example. But of all these inspirations of fraud and superstition, it is questionable whether any exceeded, either in mysticism or con-

ception, or in regularity of design, the system of religion which was palmed upon the public in Cairo, during the concluding period of the Fatimite dynasty. Assuredly none has survived so long, or had such zealous and persevering adherents. The acts of Mansour-Abou-Ali Hakem-Biamar Allah, or 'he who governs by the commandment of God,' sixth prince of that line, and the third of those who reigned in Egypt, have been fully registered in the pages of history; nor is it necessary to make further allusion to him at present, than to state, that at the close of his reign, about the year a.d. 1020, after folly, cruelty, and caprice had nearly exhausted their means of degrading and afflicting the human race within his dominions, his insane pride led him to believe, or induced him to allow others to be led into the belief, that he was a personation of the Deity, or to use the expression of the sect, that the Divinity used his person as 'a veil,' to conceal its effulgence while on earth. There were not wanting parasites in his court, who flattered him in this idea, and who even urged him to make it a doctrine of faith amongst the people. But there was one, a Persian, of the name of Hamzé, son of Ali, son of Achmet, belonging to the sect of Batenians, who seized this passport to fame and fortune, with a tenacity of purpose and a degree of enthusiasm, that might induce the conclusion, that he himself was fully confirmed of the truth of the pretensions thus set forth. It is certain that he was loaded with honours and emoluments, and that he was unceasingly active in procuring partisans to his real or assumed belief in the Divinity of Hakem. Amongst the more zealous of his adherents, was a certain Neshteken Darazi, another of the sect of Batenians, by birth a Turk. With more overt ambition and less discretion than his master, he publicly proclaimed his adhesion, in the grand Mosque of Cairo. The people rushed upon him, and would have massacred him on the spot, had he not sought safety in flight. Hakem hesitated to take openly his part, before such an unequivocal burst of public feeling, and facilitated his departure out of the country; giving him at the same time a large supply of money, and instructions to proceed into the mountains of Syria, and spread the new doctrines which he had espoused. Darazi departed accordingly, and arrived in the Wady Tame above the sources of the Jordan, near Hasbaya, a.d. 1020. There he found hearers amongst the Arabs, and soon made converts. A footing thus gained, correspondence was opened with Egypt, and Hamzé hastened to avail himself of the favourable opening, that had thus presented itself for the promotion of his views. \* \* \* The work of conversion went rapidly on. Ten years did not elapse before the Arab tribes who inhabited the Lebanon had mostly adopted the outward profession, while a class set apart had been initiated into the mysteries, of the doctrines of Hamzé. He had not, however, the honour of giving his name to the new religion. The disciples of Darazi, the first teacher, by a natural and easy etymology, obtained the distinguishing epithet of *Druses*, and the appellation extended to the whole sect."

If this account is the true one, as there seems to be no reason to doubt that it is, then, the Fatimite Caliph Hakem, the Persian Hamzé, and the Turk Darazi are the three personages principally identified with the historical origin of the Druse system,—Hakem being its political founder, Hamzé its intellectual framer, and Darazi its expositor and propagator. More detailed accounts, interesting but not very philosophical, are given by Col. Churchill of each of these personages:—all of whom, and especially the Caliph Hakem, seem to have been among the most singular characters produced by the Mohammedan world.—The history of the *Druses* is then traced by the author at great length, and an elaborate account is given of their religion,—founded partly on the author's own inquiries, and partly on a dissertation on the subject of the Druse religion by the late Baron Sylvestre de Sacy. The following is a summary of the Druse tenets.—

"To acknowledge one only God, without endea-

touring to penetrate the nature of His being and attributes (indeed, the Druses are so far from admitting attributes in God, that His Intelligence, His Will, His Justice, His Word, are, in their system, created beings, and ministers of God, his first productions); to confess that He can neither be comprehended by the senses, nor described by language; to believe that the Divinity has made itself manifest to men, at different epochs, in the human form, without partaking of human weakness and frailty; that the Divinity appeared for the last time, in the fifth century of the Hegira of Mohammed, under the figure of Hakem-biammar Allah, and that, after that, no other manifestation is to be expected; that Hakem disappeared in the year 411 of the Hegira, or 1021 A.D., to prove the faith of his servants, and to give occasion for the falling off of apostates, who had only embraced the true religion from worldly motives; that he will re-appear in due time in glory and majesty, to triumph over all his enemies, to extend his empire over the whole earth, and to give the kingdom to his faithful worshippers. To believe that the 'Universal Intelligence' is the first of God's creations,—the only direct and immediate production of his Almighty power; that he has appeared on earth simultaneously with each manifestation of the Divinity; and that, lastly, in the time of Hakem, he took the figure of Hamzé, the son of Ali, the son of Ahmed; that it is by his ministry and agency that all things have been produced; that he alone possesses the knowledge of all truths; that he is the first Minister of the true religion; that it is he who communicates, directly or indirectly, to other ministers, and to simple believers, but in different degrees and proportions, the knowledge and the grace which he receives immediately from the Divinity, and of which he is the sole medium; that he alone has direct access to the Deity, standing as Mediator between the Supreme Being and the great family of mankind. To acknowledge that Hamzé it is to whom Hakem will intrust his sword, in the last day, to smite all his adversaries, to make his religion triumphant, and to distribute rewards and punishments to every one according to his deserts; to know the other ministers of the Unitarian religion, and the rank and offices which belong to each of them individually, and to render them that obedience and submission which is due. To confess that all souls were created by the 'Universal Intelligence'; that the number of human beings is always the same,—neither increasing nor decreasing; but that souls pass from one body to another; that they rise, and become perfected in excellence, or deteriorate, and become lost and degraded, according to their love and attachment to the truth, or their neglect and disregard of it; to practise the seven commandments which the religion of Hamzé imposes on his followers, and more especially those which inculcate a strict regard to truth in words, charity towards the brethren, entire renunciation of all former modes of belief, and complete and unreserved submission to the will of God. And, finally, to confess that all preceding religions whatever were but types, more or less complete, of the only true religion,—all their legal and ceremonial precepts and injunctions but allegories; and that the revelation of the true religion necessarily induces the complete abolition of all anterior ones. Such is an abridgment of the principal points of belief laid down in the religion of the Druses, of which Hamzé is the founder, and the founders of which are called Unitarians."

This creed is common to all the Druses, and is the foundation of their social system. All the Druses, however, are not equally initiated. The most important part of the Druse population, forming one-sixth or one-seventh of the whole, and composed of Druses of both sexes, are the Ockals. These select or initiated Druses, forming a kind of priesthood, or Freemason association in the midst of the general population, are thus described.—

"The Druse religion became a sacred inheritance. But the guardianship of doctrines so sublime and exalted, that it were profanation to commit them to the vulgar herd of men, demanded qualities commensurate with their value and importance, and it required even more than a nominal profession of Unitarianism, to be admitted to a knowledge of the

inappreciable mysteries. Hence the order of Ockals. That a certain degree of *hauteur* and self-sufficiency should be evinced in the outward bearing of a fraternity, which considers itself the favoured depositary of revelations, directly proceeding from the first Emanation of the Deity himself, is not to be wondered at, and, consequently, the Druse Ockals, almost without exception, are distinguished by these characteristics. A modern writer has most justly observed, 'One cannot see a Druse Ockal without feeling the impression that he is the possessor of a secret.' A spirit of wariness and circumspection signalizes all the actions of his life. That prudence and reserve which are so essentially requisite to his sacred calling, enter largely into his general character. The gravity, and even stolidness, of his deportment, the measured cadence of his words, and the guarded brevity of his observations, involuntarily invite repose and trust, and combine in making a good and sincere Druse Ockal the fittest receptacle possible for confidential communications. \* \* \* Exemplary moral conduct, and undeviating adherence to the rigid principles of self-denial which are imposed upon his order, are the Ockal's only passports to superior regard and consideration. With such elements of controul and organization continually exerting their influence over their whole body, it is not surprising that the social and political condition of the Druses should present a compactness and unity, which make them both important and formidable. Some devote themselves to celibacy, in order the more effectually to free themselves from cares and passions which might interfere with the practice of their self-imposed duties, without, however, withdrawing themselves from social intercourse; others, who aspire to a more complete and perfect exercise of that abstraction of thought and feeling, that entire and absorbing appreciation of the Divine Unity and of the transcendent excellency of his favoured Minister, which is the peculiar privilege and the highest aim of a zealous and enthusiastic Unitarian, retire to the Holowés, or places set apart for worship, and pass their entire lives in contemplative devotion. A coarse straw mat their bed, a stone their pillow, a coarse woollen garb bound round the waist by a girdle of leather their attire, and a morsel of dry bread twice a-day their only sustenance. All classes of the Druses invariably kiss the hand of such of the Ockals as distinguish themselves by a superior degree of moral and religious conduct—a mark of respect which they accept with the greatest diffidence and unwillingness, invariably returning the salute, even to the hand of the lowest peasant. \* \* Every Thursday evening the Ockals assemble in their respective Holowés, for the purpose of reading in their sacred books. Should a stranger, and even an European, express a desire to be present, no objection is made, and admittance is granted. On such occasions, however, nothing appears but the Koran, which is read aloud with every mark of respect and attention, in order that their visitor may go away with the impression that they are good Mussulmans; so that, as far as regards any anticipated insight into their real religion, nothing can possibly be gained to a looker-on by such inquisitiveness. At the commencement of the evening, earthenware saucers filled with figs, raisins, sugar-plums, &c., are ranged on the floor all round the room, for the refreshment of those present. The Druses, both Ockals and the uninitiated, lounge about the door, talk over the events of the day, and pass to and fro in the apartment indiscriminately. Suddenly, the doors are closed, and the latter disappear. The precautions taken by a body of Freemasons are not greater than those now used. Sentries are placed in the immediate neighbourhood, to prevent the possibility of any one intruding on the privacy of the Ockals. What now passes must be fancied, for it has never been witnessed, except by the Unitarian brethren. \* \* Discourses, embracing every possible topic of moral and dogmatic theology, philosophy, physics, astrology, &c., made up in a style of abstruseness and prolixity which must put the human comprehension often at fault, form the grand staple which serves to inform, to astonish, and excite the Druses in these their hours of religious assemblage. Another, and perhaps not less important use, in the eyes of the Druses, to which these weekly meetings are made subservient, is that of omnivorous and multifarious discussion.

The secrecy of their proceedings admirably adapt them for such an object. The characters of private and public individuals are here earnestly discussed. Reports are made on all topics which concern the general welfare of the Unitarians, whether of social or political interests. These Ockals, who but a few hours previously might have been seen traversing the mountains in various directions, singly or in pairs, with thoughtful looks and distant mien, here find legitimate relief, and freely unburden their minds of all the secret news or public tidings of which they have been made the depositaries—again, perhaps, to go forth on the ensuing day on fresh errands of trust and importance. The incessant interchange of opinions, counsels, suggestions, nay, even of thoughts, which is thus kept up amongst the initiated Druses, is extraordinary and almost incredible. The Ockals may, in fact, be said to form a kind of Senate in the Druse body politic, which, by its anxious vigilance and discriminating prudence, extends a guardian *Ægis* over the whole fraternity. The order of Ockals is open to all the Druses of both sexes. When a Druse wishes to become an Ockal, he intimates his wish to one or two of the fraternity, and the proposition is laid before a meeting of the brethren. The demands of the Unitarian religion on his general conduct are then clearly stated to him. He is to leave off all display or show in his apparel, which is henceforth to consist of the very plainest materials. He is to abandon for ever the idle and useless custom of smoking tobacco, and drinking wine or spirits of any kind, such habits being considered wholly inconsistent with the serious carriage, sobriety, and practice of self-denial, by which a true Unitarian should be distinguished. A probationary term of twelve months is prescribed to him, during which period his behaviour is narrowly watched by the Ockals, for the purpose of seeing whether he evinces firmness and perseverance of purpose in his resolutions of conformity to the above-mentioned rules, and whether his moral conduct is severe and irreproachable. \* \* At the expiration of the year, should he have given clear proofs of his sincerity and honesty of purpose, he is admitted to the Holowé, and is present during the earlier part of the evening's reading. In the second year he assumes the white turban, emblem of the purity of his faith, and by degrees, according to his zeal and general deportment, is allowed to listen to the whole doctrine of the Unitarian religion, and becomes a participant in the hopes and promises which appertain to all true believers in the Unity of the Lord, and the exalted and incomparable excellencies of the Ministers."

The civil government of the Druses is in the hands of the Sheiks,—who again are subject to the Emir, or Prince, of Lebanon,—who, in his turn, has relations, through the Pasha of Sidon, with the Turkish empire. One of the most interesting personages of whom an account is given in these volumes in connexion with the Druses is, the Emir Bechir Shehaab, late Prince of the Lebanon; but for this account, as well as for the names and acts of other individuals famous in the history of the Druses, we must refer to the volumes themselves. Full details are also given by Col. Churchill of the present state and past history of the Maronites, and of their relations to the Druses.

On the whole, these volumes are very curious and interesting. All the essential matter which they contain might have been presented in a more condensed form, and might have been far better arranged; but for the faults of the work in these respects there is some excuse in the abundance of the details, many of them personally collected, which the author had to communicate respecting a country so little known as the Lebanon. The political doctrine which pervades the volumes is simply this:—that Turkey is fast breaking up from internal causes, even if let alone; that Syria is a most important part of the Turkish dominions, and Lebanon a most important part of Syria; that at present the Russians and the French are the two European powers that have the strongest hold of this part of the East,—Russia as the protector of the Greek, and France

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of the Latin Christians; but that it would be well for the East if Great Britain, America, and Protestantism were to step in more ostensibly and act a more direct and vehement part.

*The Maid of Florence; or, Niccolò de' Lapi.*  
By the Marquis Massimo d'Azeglio. Translated from the Italian by W. Felgate, M.A. 3 vols. Bentley.

It would hardly be possible for so honourable a man of letters as the Marquis d'Azeglio is known to be, to publish any book which should not sustain his character as one sedulous in composition and ripe in scholarship. His romance, accordingly, 'The Maid of Florence,' if considered as evidencing diligence and learning, does no discredit to his reputation. But it does not follow that care and pains, however creditable to him who exercises them, shall produce a good work of Art. Eighteen months ago, when the translation of Il Cavaliere Rosini's 'Conte Ugolino della Gherardesca' was published, some characteristics of Italian historical fiction were touched upon [Athen. No. 1260]. The absence of vitality in its characters, and the disposition generally shown by its writers to preach, to extatiate, and to quote authorities, were pointed to as constant qualities,—making the perusal a task, not a pleasure, for the novel-reader who does not desire to have historical teaching or Academical discourse in the midst of his novel. 'Niccolò de' Lapi' is less adust than some of its brother-romances, but it still comes within the range of the criticism applied to them. The misfortunes of Lisa, the hapless daughter of the old Florentine chieftain, and of Laodamia, her stainless sister—the treachery of Troilus, Lisa's betrayer, who affected penitence and a desire for reconciliation with the De' Lapi, in order that he might play a traitor's part by the city, then besieged by Charles the Fifth—are not bad objects of central interest; but they are disposed in 'The Maid of Florence' with the skill of a philosopher, a lecturer, an historian,—not of a romancer. The tale would gain as a tale were it trimmed down into a third of its present bulk. Let us instance the peculiarities of the Marquis d'Azeglio's style and school by abridging the description of one of the actors in the drama.—

"The city of Florence was well prepared for defence. The walls were strong, the soldiery numerous and well appointed, the treasury well furnished, provisions abundant, and the minds of all inflamed with the love of their country, and full of daring; but it cherished a viper in its bosom, and that viper was Malatesta Baglioni. \*\* The first years of Malatesta's life were passed pretty much as his father's had been; originally a captain in the service of the Venetians, afterwards lord of Perugia, and last of all, as we have seen captain of the Florentine troops. A man of a cold, unfeeling mind, sagacious and astute; of unweared tenacity of purpose, haughty and avaricious; persevering and dogged in his revenge; and above all other qualifications, he was a master of artifice, and of the art of concealing and colouring it, even after it had effected its object; personally bold and fearless, and a very skilful commander. In a word, he was the type of those petty tyrants, who, for several ages, rose and fell, and then reappeared again on the scene, in almost all the Italian cities. At one time princes, at another commanders in the service of other princes, or of republics more powerful than princes; often acting as chiefs of parties, of outlaws or of bandits; men who had experienced every variety of fortune; and in all, showed themselves equally brave, restless, and insatiable; men who, reared in the midst of domestic vices and civic quarrels, after having lived in a continual alternation of violence and fraud, generally terminated their career by being overwhelmed or betrayed by powerful and open foes, or else fell beneath the knife of the assassin, and sometimes even of their nearest connexions. So that in

that age, more than in any other, the lines of Juvenal seemed to be verified—

Ad generum Cereris sine cædo et vulnere pauci  
Descendunt reges, et sicca morte Tyranni.

It will not be thought probable, that in such men there could be any sentiments of religious faith or feeling. And yet, in their way, they had both. So true is it that Diogenes, in defining man to be an unfledged biped, ought to have added the epithet 'inconsistent' to it. They built churches, they maintained monks, they enriched sanctuaries; they believed in God, in the Gospel, and in the Pope; and, still with the same species of logic, in witches, in alchemy, and in astrology. \*\* The Serristori palace, where he lodged was, as it is at present (though entirely changed), at the bottom of the square, near to the bridge Alle Grazie. The back looked on the mill-stream and on the Arno. The very morning, on which our story opens, an hour before daybreak, all was still throughout the palace, the great gate closed, and the postern alone half-open, at which was stationed a soldier on guard; his arms, his head, and the upper part of his body encased in iron; he wore the huge breeches of the fifteenth century, with red and black stripes, and striped hose of the same colour. The weapon, with which he was furnished, was a long halberd; and he paced up and down impatiently beneath the entrance-passage, stamping with his feet in order to keep himself warm. The men who formed the guard, wrapped in their cloaks, were snoring in a corner, where they lay at full length on the straw, near a heap of cinders and ashes, the remains of the fire which they had made during the night. On the first floor all were still asleep. Malatesta alone had been awake for some time. He was sitting on a couch of a rectangular form, made of stained wood, highly finished with inlaid work; the faces divided into compartments, and on each of them were represented a story from the ancient mythology in basso-relievo. The frames which bordered these representations, presented a curious and complicated wreath of leaves, of figures of animals, of strange visages, and of every kind of arabesque. The couch rose upon a basement about a span from the floor. By the side of the bed, on a little round table supported by a figure of Atlas, bending down, a silver lamp was burning; near to it were thrown, in one disordered heap, a very beautiful poniard with its strings and tassels to fasten it, rings and collars, a shrine, and a jewel of so strange a form, that it was difficult to divine its use. It was a round and flat stone like a coin, of a ruby colour, tied to a small steel chain. By a point, which was likewise of steel, inserted in the ligature, it was held suspended by the attracting power of a magnetised needle, which was fixed in the upper part of a circle, within which the gem remained poised. The circle itself was fixed on a little pedestal of ebony; and the whole was inscribed with letters and cabalistic signs. The room was hung with red leather, ornamented with arabesque work in gold; arm-chairs all round, also of leather, bedizened with bosses and fringes. Two large mastiffs were snoring, crouched down in a corner. The aspect of Malatesta was that of one, who had been disinterred from the tomb. His eyes and cheeks were hollow; his skin was of a leaden, livid colour; his beard and hair, once so bushy, now so thin and decayed, that at the slightest touch they fell off. He had on, over his shirt, a doublet of rose-coloured cloth, which was open in front, and displayed a breast so lean and attenuated, that you could count the ribs. They were covered only by the skin, and between each pair was a deep hollow, like so many furrows. Thick and corrupt humours, gathering at his joints, had there coagulated and hardened, so that his movements were not at all free, and his arms had the appearance of being paralysed."

Other of the Marquis d'Azeglio's descriptions are even more prolix than the above. Such prolixity, or ponderosity, is doubly felt because of the nature of the characters and of the events with which the descriptions deal. We have need of all that is most beautiful in colour, brightest in the painting of manners, most adroit in the distribution of incident, to reconcile us to the scenes of painful crime, deliberate treachery, civil discord, hideous bigotry which the old Italian chronicles disclose. It is difficult as we pause among the grim and awful

palaces which frown over the streets in Florence, or wander beneath the frescoes of Orcagna in the *Campo Santo* at Pisa, to believe that those who built and painted in such a fashion can have been without spirits worth the discerning and humours that would repay the romancer's pains. Yet, the writers of fiction in Italy have failed to establish any such individualities, by way of relief to the grim events of sack-assassination and conspiracy. Even Alfieri, than whom no more violently patriotic Italian ever existed, seems to have hesitated in presence of his country's modern history, like one arrested by a barrier too grim and sharply fortified to be taken by force with any good result. His 'Congiura de' Pazzi' is the one national tragedy among his dozen great works,—and in this, as in Manzoni's more recent 'Carmagnola' and Niccolini's 'Arnaldo,' we have passions, not human beings—sentiments, not manners. The Shakspeare and the Scott of Italy are yet to come.—This romance by the Marquis d'Azeglio, it should be added, has been carefully translated:—its writer accrediting the version in a preliminary Advertisement.

*The Life and Martyrdom of Savonarola, illustrative of the History of Church and State Connexion.* By R. R. Madden. 2 vols. Newby.

Savonarola has undoubtedly been ill used. He was persecuted by the Medici and burnt by the Pope. He has been largely admired by fanatics, and as largely abused by men of letters. Bayle has touched him with his merciless scalpel,—Roscoe has urged against him every scrap of scandal and every suggestion of a fault treasured up by his ancient enemies at Florence. A host of other writers have spattered their ink upon his name and as if all this were not enough for the poor monk to bear,—Mr. Madden has undertaken his defence.

While living and preaching—at times preaching with a rudeness which reminds us of the eloquence of a back-wood revivalist or the style of a provincial ranter—Pope and citizens agreed to send Savonarola to the stake; but he was scarcely dead ere Pope and citizens began to quarrel about his virtues and his meaning. It is to this day a moot point whether he was a great saint or a grievous sinner—the glory of the Church or its reproach. Moderate men, however, will have no difficulty in placing the statue of Savonarola in its proper niche in the historic gallery. Mr. Madden's assertion, that he possessed "a genius of the very highest order," is an abuse of speech. Nevertheless, this ascetic friar was a man of notable intellect, hard, vigorous and impasioned, clear-sighted and unsleeping, but wanting in roundness, grasp, and flexibility. He was a great fanatic:—a fanatic in the absolute sense, wedded to one idea, and distinguishable from others of the same class only by the largeness of his collateral gifts. A close thinker, a good writer, a powerful preacher—a man to whom earnestness was a power and grace was a weakness—a solemn egotist, confident in himself and careless of learned culture, utterly intolerant to Pagan arts, literature and manners, but ready to sacrifice himself and all the rest of mankind to his dogma of the union of a spiritual theocracy with a democratic form of government, like the old constitution of Florence—a doctrine of which he was first the advocate and then the victim,—such was Savonarola, and such his life:—a character by no means rare, and a career not difficult to understand.

Given the stern man and the stern dogma—the man who, even as a child, was never known to smile, the dogma which brought his country to the verge of ruin—given these elements, and

the time, the scene, the men by whom he was surrounded,—and the dramatic artist, working in his mere knowledge of the world, would cast a horoscope for Savonarola with little fear of being found far wrong in the end. With a *Borgia* on the Papal throne, a *Lorenzo the Magnificent* at Florence, what chance was there for a restive friar who could deceive himself and delude others into the belief that he had received a special mission from heaven to perform a task beyond his strength? Savonarola has often been compared with Luther:—but he was altogether wanting in the breadth, the geniality, the humour of the great German. Luther was a larger man. Savonarola was always a friar. In his writings, in his sermons, the tonsure, the shaven head, the sackcloth garb continually appear. The reader of Luther often enough forgets that his author is a cleric, —the tone is broad and masculine, and the thinking is intensely human, whether it be quaint or homely, grotesque or noble. Their choice of books was severally characteristic of the men. When Savonarola entered a convent, he took with him his Bible and his book of prayers:—Luther carried with him his *Plautus* and his *Virgil*.

Mr. Madden has a great quarrel with what he calls “the adherents of Lorenzo, the literati of the time.” He evidently believes the republic of literature to be no better than Harwich or Old Sarum—willing to sell its honours to the highest bidder; and that history is written, like a dedication in the days of Queen Anne, according to the largess. “It matters not to literature,” he says, indignantly,—

“what solemn engagements entered into by a Prince may be broken—it is of no importance how much perfidy has been practised to undermine by stealth a long-established form of government, or overturn a constitution by open violence; how much sophistry is employed to give a plausible appearance of adherence to principles, while it passes over manifest perversions of them in practice; how much injury is done to public morality by those highway robberies of a people’s rights by ambitious felons in high places. All that literature feels called on to inquire about the rulers of the earth is, How are they affected towards learning? Do they patronize it? Have they done so long, and liberally?”

Now, does Mr. Madden see, or state, the truth of the matter? That a single scholar may be won by gracious acts—may be even venal in the ugliest sense of the word—is possible. Venality among scholars is a part of human weakness, like simony in the church, cowardice in the army, and corruption in Parliament. But that Literature itself is venal—that it has a leaning towards the vices of its patrons—that a long succession of men, differing in age, country, and attainments, from a Politian to a Roscoe, should be found willing to sacrifice their moral sense, their self-respect, the dignity of their art, and the force of truth, in order to glorify the magnificent friend of Italian scholars and the promoter of classical learning,—is one of those theories which no sound and unimpassioned mind will accept. That *Lorenzo de’ Medici* was guilty of some crimes and many weaknesses, it is not necessary to dispute. He was an Italian, and he lived in the fifteenth century. But we submit, that during his rule of his native city Florence enjoyed a tranquillity at home and a respect abroad never before known in her history; and against which it is absurd to compare the weakness and the anarchy of the theocratic régime which followed under the auspices of Savonarola.

The cruelty of Lorenzo in the Pazzi affair, of which Mr. Madden makes so much, will strike different readers differently. This is Mr. Madden’s own account of it.—

“The famous conspiracy of Francis Pazzi against

the Medici, in which Julian lost his life in 1478, and his brother Lorenzo was slightly wounded, having been defeated, Lorenzo adroitly turned the attempt to his advantage, and to the complete ruin of his principal competitors, both commercial and political. The Pazzi had carried on a rival banking establishment in Rome, where Lorenzo also had one. They were considered by the people as firmly attached to the Republic, and faithful to its interests. They were popular with the Democratic party; the Medici, on the other hand, were looked upon with distrust by that party, as having designs to promote their own interests rather than those of the Republic; in fact, to elevate themselves above it. They were merchant princes, in every sense of the term—making use of the State for the benefit of their bank, and using their bank for the promotion of their designs against the Republic. It is not in the ‘Life of Lorenzo de’ Medici,’ by Roscoe, however admirably written, that we must look for proof of any statements which militate against the character of Lorenzo in any period of his career. Nevertheless, in the earlier part of that career there was most assuredly much to reduce hero-worship, in the case of the homage so extensively offered to his wealth, prudence, and prosperity, within moderate and reasonable limits. If the crime of the Pazzi was atrocious, the crimes of the adherents of the Medici were not less so. No sooner had the conspiracy exploded, and failed in its main object, than the streets were polluted with the dead bodies of their victims, by the adherents of the Medici. ‘Giacomo Poggio was hanged from a window of the palace. The followers (of the Pazzi) were either slaughtered in the palace, or thrown half alive through the windows.’ The young Cardinal Riario, who was seized at the altar, where he had taken refuge, was only preserved from death by the interference of Lorenzo, ‘who appeared to give credit to his asseverations that he was ignorant of the intentions of the conspirators.’ It would have been well if Lorenzo had then said to his adherents, ‘transeat in exemplo.’ Francesco Pazzi was dragged out of his uncle’s house naked, and hanged from the palace windows. This punishment was immediately followed by that of the Archbishop of Pisa, Salviati, who was hung through a window of the palace, and was not allowed even to divest himself of his prelatical robes.”

Roscoe tells us that, not only was Riario—the man who had come to Florence to direct the conspiracy and secure the assassination of the Prince!—saved by Lorenzo, but that he “exerted all his influence to restrain the indignation of the populace and prevent the shedding of blood.” This is a part in the drama quite in harmony with his general character as a cultivated Platonist, a lover of the arts, a poet, and a scholar.

In order to appreciate Savonarola, it is not necessary to depreciate Lorenzo. The men were utterly unlike in tastes and in habits, in original construction and in culture. The hard, unsmiling friar, in coarse serge and with frowning face, pouring threats, warnings, prophecies like flames, scorie and liquid lava on the heads of his hearers, whose sermons were of burning cities and slaughtered citizens, of famine, pestilence and sudden death,—was contrasted with a gay voluptuary, pagan in taste, culture and affection, whose garden was a gallery of the rarest Art, whose halls, lighted with more than regal splendour, resounded with the voice of wit and the song of women. Here were the elements not only of contrast but of conflict:—and with Mr. Madden’s leave, we hold that there is something fine in both the men, as there must be always where there is true sincerity and a character founded on culture real and legitimate of its kind.

That Savonarola was an effective preacher no one who has read even cursorily his printed works can doubt. Of his power in this way we gain some notion from the anecdote told of his rebuke to the *Lady of Bologna*. The great lady was, no doubt, provoking, as is very much the way with great ladies even yet; the preacher

in this case was not very courtly it must be owned, but the concluding announcement from the pulpit has an air of extreme dignity.—

“It happened at this time that the wife of John Bentivoglio, the tyrant lord of Bologna, attended his sermons, and always came into the church when the sermon had been commenced, accompanied usually by a great number of gentlewomen and young ladies ‘gentildonne e damigelle’—who greatly disturbed not only the congregation but the preacher also, who, on several occasions, was obliged to pause in his discourse until the disturbance had ceased. On this account, on the first occasion of the disturbance, he begged, with mildness, of those ladies in general who attended his preaching, that they would all endeavour to be present at the beginning of the sermon, in order to avoid any more giving disturbance while the word of God was preached. But his request not being at all attended to, the very proud woman (of whom mention has been made) persisting still in coming into church as she was wont to do, the preacher one morning in particular said, in a very courteous manner, while she was proceeding to her place, ‘My lady *madonna*, you would do what is pleasing to God, and also to me, to come into church at the beginning of the sermon, so that neither the congregation nor myself should be disturbed.’ But all expostulation was in vain. On the third occasion of a similar interruption, seeing the same lady walk in in her accustomed manner with great pomp, feeling himself inflamed with zeal (for the honour of religion), he cried out in a loud voice, ‘Behold the evil one, behold the evil one who comes to perturb (the preaching of) the word of God—*Ecco il demonio! ecco il demonio che viene a perturbare il verbo di Dio.*’ On hearing these words, the haughty woman, infuriated, having apprised her husband of what had taken place, prevailed on him to dispatch two of his satellites to assassinate the father, even in the pulpit; but the Lord, who was his helper, did not permit those machinations to be carried into effect. The preacher having returned to his cell, the offended lady, still full of anger and revenge, employed two other agents, more wicked than the former, to put him to death. When they came to the convent gate, the porter, named *Fra Dionysio* (having spoken with them), went to call *Fra Girolamo*, telling him there were two soldiers of the signore who inquired for him, and therefore he (*Fra Dionysio*) advised him to be on his guard against some treachery. *Fra Girolamo* answered, that all his trust was in God, and therefore he might admit those men freely. Being therefore admitted, when they came into his presence, he asked them, with perfect composure, what good news they had for him; and they, feeling their hearts moved and their intentions altered, with great respect said to him, ‘Our lady sent us to your reverence, to know if you had need of anything; and, if so, that she was most willing to provide for your necessities.’ To which the father replied suitably, giving them thanks, and with courteous words dismissed them. So striking an example of boldness (in the discharge of his sacred duties) began to procure a large attendance at his sermons; so many came, that the church could hardly contain the numbers. And at length, coming to the conclusion of his course of sermons, he said publicly, ‘This night I will take the road for Florence with my slender staff and my wooden flask, and I will repose at Pianoro; if any person want aught of me, let him come before I set out. Nevertheless the solemnity of my death is not to be celebrated at Bologna, but elsewhere.’”

After the death of *Lorenzo de’ Medici*, Savonarola found, or rather made, a more implacable and unscrupulous enemy in Pope *Borgia*, *Alexander the Sixth*. He preached and prophesied against this infamous pontiff; and the pontiff in turn set his wily genius at work to compass his destruction,—a task in which he was only too much aided by the anarchy into which Florence had been thrown by the impracticable theocratic constitution. Mr. Madden shall tell us how the new institutions worked.—

“In 1495 and 1496 the opposition to *Fra Girolamo* went on gradually augmenting; in 1497 it became a deadly animosity which could hardly be controlled

by the government, and towards the close of that year some of the authorities gave an official countenance to it. The same adversaries he had from the beginning were still his foes; the dissolute, the impious, the avaricious, and the despotic. Not only were various attempts made against his life, but a constant system of annoyances and vexatious insults was adopted by his opponents, of the most unworthy as well as unmanly character. On one occasion, they had formed a plan for setting fire to the pulpit while the father was preaching: at another time they procured that rare object in nature, a dead ass; stuffed the skin, and set it up in the pulpit, a short time before Fra Girolamo was expected to ascend the steps. On another occasion of particular solemnity also, when he was about to preach, they fixed sharp nails in the cushion along the edge of the pulpit, with the points projecting upwards, so that when the preacher used any vehemence of action by striking his hands on the cushions, he was sure to inflict a severe wound on himself. More than once his life had been attempted on his way to the churches in which he preached, and even in the church itself. On one of those occasions, the women who were favourably disposed to him, cried out those words, that had so thrilling an effect at the commencement of the reform, 'Viva Jesu Christo Nostro Re! Viva Jesu Christo Re de Firenza!' The men on both sides—those who were admirers of Fra Girolamo, and those who belonged to the ribald, godless class of religion-hating ruffians—drew their swords, and menaced one another's life. Verily the reformed republic with its great council, and the spiritual régime superseding the authority of the police, the rule of liberty and equality in all their fulness under the new theocracy did not practically work well."

—On these passions and contentions Borgia worked with good effect. Of the attack of the infuriated rabble on the Convent of San Marco—of the trial of the accused monk—of his sufferings in prison and his terrible death—we need not tell the story.

Mr. Madden's book will be a welcome one to many English readers, as containing a full account of a remarkable person whose name is perhaps better known in this country than that of any other Romish martyr. But it is in no sense a good 'Life.' The materials collected are rich and interesting:—they are wanting, however, in art and orderly disposition. Probably two-thirds of the volumes are filled with extracts from various authors,—and about half the matter has no intimate relation to the theme.

*Hadrian the Builder of the Roman Wall: a Paper read at the Monthly Meeting of the Society of Antiquaries, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, August 4, 1852, in Reply to an Attempt to Substantiate the Claims of Severus, by Robert Bell. By the Rev. J. C. Bruce. J. R. Smith.*

We are far from denying the importance of the historical question here discussed,—whether Hadrian or Severus were the constructor of the *vallum* and *murus* which run from the Pons *Ellii* to the estuary of Iduna,—that is to say, from the Tyne to the Firth of Solway? In many points of view the inquiry is of consequence in reference to the Roman possession of Britain, and to the means which that people took to defend the whole of the southern territory from the incursions of the Picts, and to coop up the latter in the fastnesses to which they had retreated, and from which they emerged after their enemies retired into the south. Our readers are aware of the course of argument pursued by the Rev. Mr. Bruce on this subject in his recent excellent work under the title of 'The Roman Wall'; but it does not seem to have satisfied all antiquaries,—and, among the rest, Mr. Robert Bell, of Irthington, thought he had a right to offer an opinion, and to support it by such facts and authorities as he could advance to show that Mr. Bruce was in error in imputing the building of the

wall to Hadrian, to the exclusion of any claim on the part of Severus. We do not pretend that he was correct in his view of the subject; but as friends of free discussion and fair argument, we think he was entitled to an impartial hearing, and that he adduced some plausible grounds for arriving at the conclusion that Severus, and not Hadrian, deserved the credit of the great work. We say this with no intention, we repeat, to support Mr. Bell or to oppose Mr. Bruce. The latter unquestionably has the best of the case; but we venture to hint a doubt whether antiquarian science is likely to be so well advanced by the tone and style which he has assumed as by a more forbearing spirit, evincing a disposition, at all events, to listen with patience to the statements of an adversary. Mr. Bruce tells us in a preliminary notice, that "it is with considerable reluctance he publishes this tract:" if so, why did he publish it? If Mr. Bell "threw down his gage," why was Mr. Bruce necessarily bound "to take it up"? If Mr. Bruce had already sufficiently vindicated the claim of Hadrian, and if Mr. Bell's positions were so untenable, Mr. Bruce might safely have left the question where it was, without again stepping forward as the champion of Hadrian. We are ourselves, we repeat, of Mr. Bruce's way of thinking; we are convinced that the evidence from inscriptions and from authors on whom he has relied is not to be refuted; we admit that in every respect he is superior to his antagonist;—but he might have been content with that superiority, and should have avoided the display of it in the sort of triumphant air which pervades his pamphlet. The less we are disposed to value Mr. Bell's "attempt" (for he himself calls it nothing better) in favour of Severus, the more we are disposed to consider Mr. Bruce in error in treating it with so much seriousness as regards references and quotations, and so much flippancy as regards his own manner.

As a specimen of Mr. Bruce's better mode of reasoning, when he appears anxious rather to vindicate a truth than to gain a victory, we quote the following:—

"To establish his position, the antiquary of Irthington has here produced the authority of five stones. The first two are quite to the purpose. Of the third he seems to have but an indistinct recollection, for, instead of copying it, as he did the two former, he simply says it had a 'similar inscription,' without saying to which of the two it was similar, for they are different. Of the fourth his testimony is even less satisfactory, as all he says of it is, 'the other was a little defaced.' Of the fifth, which he reserves for the climax of his statement, he gives the definite, though still unsatisfactory information, that 'it is illegible from having been so much exposed to the weather!' The point which Mr. Bell here labours to establish is, as I have said, universally admitted by antiquaries;—were it not so, he could scarcely expect 'the Hadrianites,' whom he straightway charges with 'endeavouring to evade this powerful proof that the Wall was built by Severus,' to bow down before the testimony of defaced and illegible inscriptions. We now proceed to Mr. Bell's third position, namely, that because a large portion of the Wall was built by the second legion, and because a vexillation of that legion left an inscription upon a quarry on the Gelt in the reign of Severus—therefore the Wall was built at that period. It is curious to observe with how much agility Mr. Bell jumps at his conclusions. After having adduced the inscriptions by the second legion just referred to, he says—'From the foregoing observations, it may reasonably be admitted that the second legion was quartered in Cumberland, in the reign of Severus, as proved by the inscription on Gelt rock.' The premises do not warrant any such inference. The inscriptions on the Wall itself do indeed prove that the second legion was engaged in the erection of that structure, and in three instances after-mentioned the name of Hadrian is coupled with that of the second legion on those inscriptions, whilst the inscription at the Gelt merely establishes the

fact, that a part of that legion was in Cumberland in the reign of Severus. It is generally admitted that the second legion, as well as the sixth and the twentieth, was employed on the works of Hadrian, and there is nothing improbable in the idea, that a detachment of this legion, in the reign of Severus, visited these parts, and was engaged in the erection of some new defences on the line of the Wall, or in the reparation of some ruined buildings. Certain it is, that several inscriptions record the restoration of buildings at a period very shortly subsequent to this—namely, in the time of Caracalla and Heliogabalus."

In its first shape, before this paper had been "revised," it was read at one of the meetings of the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and we presume that it will be printed among the Transactions of that learned and industrious body. As we do not find that Mr. Bell's "attempt" has yet travelled south, this is another reason why the circulation of Mr. Bruce's answer might perhaps have been limited to the locality of the Wall.

*The Woodreeve's Bridal Progress: a Traveller's Tale of Rhine and Wine—[Waldmeisters Brautfahrt, &c.].* By Otto Roquette. Stuttgart, Cotta; London, Trübner & Co.

At a time when many cares and commotions have narrowed the space left for the enjoyment of the free arts, a modern poem in its sixth edition is worth looking at. There is nothing here in subject or in style on which the passions of the day can take hold,—it is a work of pure imagination, and has no temporary allusions whatever. Its success, therefore, would seem to prove either that some peculiar merit has in this case conquered untoward circumstances,—or that, after all, circumstances are not so untoward as they are said to be for works of fancy. The truth on the whole may be, that, under all disadvantages there are still readers enough to make the fortune of a poem whenever a poet will offer them a good one.

The 'Woodreeve's Bridal,' indeed, is no superlative performance, but a work of very modest pretensions. The secret of its charm must lie in its choice of a theme to which all that is genial in national feeling almost instinctively responds,—and in the spirit of youth with which it is imbued. To extol the natural beauties and bright vintage of the Rhine, through one of its symposial customs thrown into a fairy tale,—is the design of the piece; the composition of which is as free as the plan is simple. Never rising above playful description, nor expressing more than the gaiety natural to youth in its summer rambles through the paradise of the vine,—it lays no claim to any sublime quality, whether in style or in subject. This absence of pretension is at once a merit in itself and a proof of spontaneous poetic impulse in the author. He sings out of the fullness of his heart, on a theme which completely fills it for the moment: and it is to the singleness and simplicity of this healthy vein in one whom nature has endowed with the gift of musical speech that the grace of his song is owing. The poet, evidently young—“a wandering student,” he calls himself—must have Swabian blood in his veins, although the Rheingau may be the home of his affections. At least, the joyous ring of his note, and its easy melody, which owes little to Art, have something of the music peculiar to Upper Germany.

The Rheingau prides itself on a beverage, the *Maitrank* (*May-drink*), made by steeping in wine certain fragrant herbs, of which the most potent and stomachic is the sweet Wood-roof (*Asperula odorata*), which blooms at the end of May. Elder and other flowers are added to the beverage,—which, be it said in passing, is not inviting to foreign tastes. The mixture,

however, is dear to the natives; and so exhilarates the poet, that he here pours it, so to speak, into a fairy tale—of the marriage of Princess *Vine-bloom* with Prince *Waldmeister*—in English, *Woodroof*. For the latter, the German word suggests an etymology different from that which is given in dictionaries; where it is derived from the *ruß*, or whorl, formed by the leaves of the plant. The analogy with *Waldmeister*—woodmaster, points to the Saxon *reeve*,—which, accordingly, will be used in the present notice.

The poet, on a tour through the Rheingau, arrives at the inn before his companions,—refreshes himself with a draught of *May wine*, falls asleep in the twilight, and sees fairy visions in his dream. Thus opened, the tale begins with praises of the Rhineland.

Tis still to me, though absent long,  
The Paradise of wine and song.  
Tis like a draught of golden wine  
To think with rapture on the Rhine;—  
Through all my strain you'll feel its glow,—  
Come then, come with me: Rhineward ho!

The mountains, green with vineyards, bathe  
Their heads in eve's declining ray.  
While, by the river's willow'd path  
Two living forms are seen to stray:  
Now straight you guess—in twilight, there,—  
And two—of course a loving pair!  
You err: they are (don't be enraged)  
Both males, grave men, and something aged;  
One round and squat, a solemn figure,  
In suit of black, the chaplain there;—  
The other, tall, adust and meagre,  
Fills, worthy man, a college-chair.  
In solemn talk, with measured paces,  
The staid companions take their way,  
While here and there the herbs and grasses  
The lean one's peering eyes survey:—  
For he in Botany was skilled,  
And bore a lacquered satchel filled  
With store of floral specimens.  
From mountain tops and mossy glens.  
In placid mood he peeps—and listens  
While his sleek friend, with face that glistens,  
Pours out a flood of unctuous speeches,  
And, warm'd with virtuous anger, preaches,  
How for the world is god astray—  
Where nought but evil wins the day.

The Parson has been offended by an invasion of his house on the day before. During his absence, a pack of merry students, on their travels, made friends with his "cousin" Ursula; and he found them on his return regaling themselves in his garden. His wrath at this intrusion is not yet cool; so it breaks out in complaints of the wickedness of the age,—especially in abuse of wine, which is accused as a capital mischief-maker. The Professor, aware of his friend's real habits, smiles to himself; in good hopes of a genial supper, after all, at the parsonage, where he is to sleep.

Friend Lank said naught; but stooping, eyed  
A green and fragrant herb;—well pleased,  
The plant, both root and branch, he seized,  
And—after due inspection, cried,  
"Just so! *Aperula odorata*,  
A case I prize, for certain data;"—  
And gravely put aside the prey  
In the tin box where others lay.  
But stop, was that a nettle sting?  
A goat? The incident is queer.—  
Another prick—some insect thing  
Has crept within my sleeve, I fear:  
There's nothing there—what can so bite?  
To-day—if I bethink me right,  
I touched no poisonous leaves or prickles.  
Thus puzzles he:—still burns and tickles  
His skin,—but whence the plague and pain  
He cannot for his life explain.

—It is the Prince himself, on his way to the bridal, who has been impounded by the botanist; and his retainers—"Nettle" among the first—in vain attempt his rescue by stinging the stealer.

Meanwhile the Princess, at the Vine Palace of Rüdesheim, is waiting for her betrothed. His suite, too, have arrived, and are alarmed at the Prince's absence. Elfin messengers creep and fly out in all directions for news. The poet here records a fact, which must be preserved, in honour of Charlemagne.—

On fair Mount Rüdesheim, whose frontlet high  
By earliest suns with morning gold is crowned,

A Temple rises: branches wave and sigh  
Around its brow,—it gazes far around,  
While listening to the Rhine-stream's rushing sound,  
That broad and mighty at its feet rolls by:—  
When Kaiser Charles from castled Ingelheim,  
Of yore, in thought stood looking down the vale,  
As March sun-mounted, waked the sleeping time,  
And kissed with rays of Spring the mountains pale:—  
He saw, when first a thaw 'gan touch the ground,  
From Rüdesheim the snow-brooks gush amain,  
And soon, while all beside lay winter bound,  
Its head looked proud, uncovered, o'er the plain.  
There, judged the Kaiser, as from early spring  
To autumn late the sunbeams ever shine,  
With kindly heat the surface mellowing,  
There were a famous spot to plant the vine.  
So on the slope he bade the vineyards rise,  
And when with golden fruitage Autumn came,—  
Ha! Kaiser Charles, it gave thee such a prize,  
As well I count among the best of fame!

The emissaries discover Prince Woodreeve, and a force is levied to rescue him from—

A sore and sad predicament  
To lie arrested, prisoned, buried,—  
By strange companions vexed and worried  
With questions most impertinent.  
For with him there in durance sat  
A mob of weeds, from banks and pools,—  
Bold camomiles, in shameless pride,  
Jesting with mushroom coxcombs shallow—  
Mere spungy impudent toad-stools:—  
Glib marigolds, in turbans yellow,  
Extolling in a shrill descant  
With gossip tales, and childish babble,  
This cousin and the other aunt:—  
While knot-grass and wild cummin-plant  
Behaved themselves like very rabbie.  
—O! how unspeakable the strait!  
How deeply he deplored his fate!

But help is at hand.—

The Botanist,—it now is night,—  
His supper done, strides in to bed,  
And lays him down—puts out the light,  
And gives the moon exclusive right  
Through the small room her rays to shed.  
But sleep, whose aid he greatly wants,  
Averts to-night the man of plants,  
Though dozy, drowsy: shadows teasing  
Fit round him: fie! 'tis sultry here!  
The window raise: we'll let the breeze in  
To fan the stifling atmosphere.  
Yet slumber still no balm dispenses:  
Now here, now there, he tosses, flings,—  
And still the change no respite brings:  
Now 'tis as if through optic lenses  
His eye were peeping at a rose;—  
He starts, and feels,—Heaven keep his senses!  
There's something parched upon his nose!  
"A silly dream," he tartly cries,  
And turns him to the other side;  
But ever there new torments rise,  
It stings and bites—he can't abide.—  
"O these intolerable flies!"  
Now pinching, scratching, tickling, tweaking;  
Now whining, chirping, whistling, squeaking;  
Now croak of frogs, now buzz of beetles;  
Now sparks like points of glowing needles,—  
Were e'er such midnight miseries!  
Stay. There! at once he claps his eyes on  
The cause:—those simplex in the box:  
The room with breath narcotic poison:—  
"Tis they!—the cover he unlocks—  
"There! out of window, ye misdoers!  
Ye slumber killers, vapour brewers!"

A scene of confusion follows on the escape of the fairy Prince. The Professor, distracted, rushes forth; and is found by the enraged Parson in Ursula's chamber. All is chaos, complaint, and recrimination. The Botanist quits the house, in despair, to seek stiffer quarters; and the Parson, who charges all on the wine of the over-night's supper, is more than ever bitten against it, and makes something like a "temperance" vow. The Flower-elves, still within hearing, report this anti-vinous treason; and so turn on the Parson the anger first provoked by the Professor.

The court is assembled for the betrothal,—to honour which the Wines repair from all the provinces.—

Around the throne what busy crowds repair  
Of princely grapes—*the heirs of regal blood!*  
From Rüdesheim and Geisenheim, the pair  
Of noble twins, with golden light imbued,  
Come dancing from their sunny alleys green;  
And Asmannshäuser, red as morning sheep;  
And Ingelheimer, too, whose ruby glow  
With milder lustre shines in honeyed flow.  
'Midst hundred others of the realm of Rhine  
Stood the Court Jester, merry Neckar wine.  
But first of all, and nearest to the throne,—  
The monarch loved him as a favourite son,—  
Johannishberg—the flower of princely merit,  
Ha! how he beamed with sparkling life and spirit!  
And in his hand,—the circle's rarest bloom,  
The Pride of Worms,—all radiance, all perfume—

Who breathes not quicker, as her style he names?  
Princess Liebfrauenmilch, with her fair dames,  
And so, in order, marshalled more by worth  
Than by descent, the merry guests arranged,  
With equal space for high and humble birth,  
With equal glee their compliments exchanged.

This courtly scene is interrupted by an unexpected deputation. There are inland northern spots that yield a kind of wine, or rather vinegar—*Kratzer* (*scratcher*), the favoured regions call it,—company quite unfit for the rich offspring of the Rheingau. News of the bridal, however, has reached these plains;—and from them a deputation, unbidden, presents itself, with more zeal than grace. The representatives are, indeed, rough subjects—*ordinary* wines in the extreme sense of the term; and their style of address suits their quality.—

What's yonder? whence the noise, the bustle rude?  
Lo, struggling through the courtly multitude,  
Three strange Wines, with harsh mechanical faces,  
With elbows, arms, attack the crowd in breach,  
Insulting, striking, pushing to get places;  
Till, with a desperate summerset, they ronch  
The throne: Sir Chasselas steps out in huff  
To warn the shabby figures sternly off;  
Too late! the triad at the footstool stand;  
While one roars out, as spokesman of the band:—

As here, Imperial Majesties,  
There's promise of a wedding,  
And all your Lords and Council wise  
Are feasted at your bidding.  
So we thought shame at home to lie,  
And tradged from various stations,  
To give your royal family  
Our best congratulations.

There's one that comes from Thuringen;  
The other is a Saxon:—  
Aye—what, you think we're nothing, then?  
Our grapes you turn your backs on?—  
The third am I, from Grünberg's cliffs,  
Where Schlesingen is seated;  
And care no button for the sniffs  
Of Rhenish lords concealed!

We know our merit they despise,

And say we're nought but verjuice;

More shame for them, Sir King! with lies

So enviously to urge us!

For though we're short of gentry, still

We in our way have merits,

You'll find in us no lack of will,

Though not the brightest spirits.

They say we're used to drive to school

The boys that fear a breaming,—

Or to draw up a stocking hole,

Without a darn of stitching:

That scarcely can three hold one man,

Whose bowels we bevel:—

With due replies we treat such lies

As witness and uncivil.

So first, Sir King, we say 'tis fit

To have us more respected:

And then our duty we submit,

With courage well affected.

For Nürnberg there, I, Grünberg, next,

Then Meissen—all are loyal,

And all our wives, with best respects

Salute the Princess Royal.

After thus delivering themselves, they retire amidst universal laughter; and Neckar, the droll, parts his fool's cap amongst them. While the presentations are going on, there is stir enough in preparation for the feast.—

And in the earth as well, in rifts and veins  
And rocky caverns, what a bustle reigns!  
The little Pod-Elves piled the cooper's art;  
The little Tendril-Elves the garlands bound;  
The little Root-Elves strivings through the ground  
Performed that day a quite distinguished part;  
Aman they toiled, fresh sap and water drew,  
And served the wassailers with sweet May-dew:  
From all the vale the Elfs of the springs  
Ran thither too, from wells in fairy-rings,  
From frigid mountain cells, and fountain sources,  
To swell with active power the serving forces.  
Sun-atom conserve o'er the board was strew'd;  
Of purple-clustered grapes and golden fruits  
Was more than plenty—store of milky nutes:  
In lily chalices the sack was brewed:  
The harebells furnished cups, the beakers filled;—  
With life and joy the leafy chamber thrilled,  
Where thousand others, though unnoticed, all  
Deserving, toiled to deck the festival.  
But hark! thrice sounding 'mid the trumpet's blare,  
The gallant herald Speedwell's loud acclaim:  
"The Prince at hand!"—Fair Vine-bloom, now more  
fair  
In blushes—softly breathes the cherished name!  
And in full choir the nightingales at once  
With hurried warblings make the glad response;  
And overlast, while "Welcome" all resounds,  
Prince Woodreeve to his lady's bosom bounds!  
What hum, what stir, what questions to and fro!  
And all the late adventure long to know!—

And shuddering at the crime, their wrath declare,  
And vow sharp vengeance on the felon pair.

Between this betrothal and the wedding banquet, celebrated in the Johannisberg cellar, there is an episode of human match-making. Princess Vine-bloom's favourite, a vine-dresser's daughter, loves, without sufficiently prompt return, a bold Jäger: and the Elfin pair take their summer day's pleasure in leading him captive to the maiden's feet. Such, in poetic figure, is the virtue of May-wine! The vengeance on Parson and Professor is plotted by various imps and elves in the Johannisberg cellar,—to begin as soon as the wedding feast is prepared. The catastrophe takes place in the village inn, whither the scared Botanist has retired. The student party have arrived here too; and are now carousing in the open air in the highest spirits. The Parson, sulky and solitary, in his evening walk approaches the inn; hears songs in chorus and the ring of glasses; comes nearer to listen; and by degrees, invited and overcome, takes his place at the table among the *Bürschen*; with whom he soon becomes as loud and jocund as the maddest of the party. This is one of the liveliest scenes in the poem, and the songs which follow each other in quick succession are of the right lyric tone. This is one of the soberest among them,—light enough, but with a vein of feeling in its levity.—

Farewell, farewell! are leaving,  
A thousand times farewell!  
The springtide, budding, heaving,  
Breathes o'er me like a spell:—  
In these close walls I cannot stay;—  
It sings, it sounds—"Abroad—away!"  
Thy tears,—for all thy grieving,  
Will scarce the river swell!

Tis best to part thus early  
While young and light of heart;  
While Pain can wound severely,  
And Pleasure heal the smart:—  
From hence, for evermore, to both  
Come weal or woe:—this joy of youth  
Remembered oft and dearly,  
Its cordial will impair.

Should love's light arrow quiver  
In thy warm breast anew,  
The wreath an absent giver  
Bestowed, will freshen, too.  
To me its buds were treasures rare;  
So keep it still, with gentle care:—  
Adieu! we part for ever,  
A last and kind adieu!

The revel has grown high, when the vengeful imps arrive in swarms, and rush upon the devoted Parson. His brain whirls amidst the buzz of his tiny persecutors, and he executes the most absurd antics. "Cousin" Ursula, who has followed him, is infected with the vertigo, and joins in kind of bacchanal dance. The lean Botanist, unaccountably spared in this Reign of Terror, looks aghast on the tumult from a window of the inn parlour, to which he has soberly confined himself. All without is in the maddest uproar; when suddenly the fairy Prince appears and rebukes—*quos ego*—the mischievous imps; who take flight, in some fear of punishment for having profaned the eve of the wedding feast.—The Chaplain, we suppose, sore, exhausted, and ashamed, is led home by "Cousin" Ursula. The Prince hastens back to his nuptial feast,—with which the poem closes.

Of its character the preceding outline will give a general idea:—it bears the stamp of a jocund, almost petulant fancy—its invention is "of the stuff that dreams are made of," and its style betrays the mercurial confidence of youth. It is, however, a youth fresh and promising; and on a theme which is both pleasant and national, its gay spirits may well be acceptable at a time when many would be glad to seek relief from realities without, in a smiling world of fancy within them.

As a cheerful guide to this visionary region, the author has been rewarded with a full measure of public favour; and, on the whole, when the poetic colouring of his tale, its animation,

and its unpretending ease are considered, it will hardly be said that the favour was undeserved.

### The British Cabinet in 1853.

[Third Notice.]

No name in the Cabinet has more famous illustrations in literature than that of "Clarendon." Among the most masterly of the portraits which deck the pages of the 'History of the Great Rebellion' is that drawn of Buckingham, whose marvellous fortunes first ennobled the race of Villiers, a branch of which now inherits the title of Clarendon. In place of going over the recent political incidents in the life of the present Lord Clarendon, it will be more interesting to study him in early life, when he was assiduously laying the foundation of those acquirements which he possesses in so eminent a degree. We have high authority for the authenticity of the following anecdotes, which we copy from manuscript recollections of an "Irish Courtier."

"A short time previous to the concession of Catholic Emancipation, there was residing at Dublin a tall and slight young gentleman—with a certain elegance of air, not unmingled with a lassitude that might have arisen either from ill health, or from the satiety of a life of pleasure. His face was pale and delicate, his features were strikingly intellectual, with a general expression of shrewd sense joined to courtly mannerism. He was to be seen riding about by himself, and sometimes walking alone in the neighbourhood of the Custom House, that palatial triumph of the influence of John Beresford, and the skilful talents of Gandon. It was not easy to ascertain who was the elegant unknown, at whom the *belles* of Gardiner Street discharged their battery of amorous glances in vain. He dressed with great care and taste, and there was an air of undoubted fashion about him that provoked the curiosity of observers. He was too *dégagé* for a barrister—too dandified for a doctor—and yet, as he did not flare forth in showy equipages, he could not be a man of fortune. Many there were who asked, and few could answer. He was not to be met with at the Merrion Square parties, or in general society; though some had a recollection—a faint one—of having seen him at the Castle. And so, time wore on,—and the graceful stranger continued to ramble about by himself, and look as happy as his indifferent health would allow him, even though the whole of Merrion Square was ready to ignore his personal existence. At last, some penetrating persons discovered that the name of the elegant unknown was 'Villiers,' that he was highly connected with the English aristocracy, and that he held some place in the Custom House. This was but meagre information, but others ascertained not only his residence, but his origin and personal history. He answered to the sweetly-sounding name of George William Frederick Villiers; and it appeared, that he was the nephew of that once well-known fashionable notoriety, the Hon. John Villiers, bosom friend and boon companion of George, Prince of Wales, and a younger brother of that Earl of Clarendon, who was also one of the most constant associates of the Sardanapalus of England. The Villierses, Earls of Clarendon, it was further ascertained with little trouble, derive from one of the sons of the second Earl of Jersey, who married the grand-daughter of Lady Jane Hyde, daughter of Henry Hyde, the last Earl of Clarendon of the Hyde creation, and sister to the well-known Duchess of Queensbury. Thus it was ascertained that the graceful stranger who had puzzled the Dublin folk was of high birth; and being a Villiers, it was not surprising that he should possess those pleasing qualities of insinuation and courtly grace for which all the branches of the House of Villiers have for generations been noted. It did not take away from the interest which he inspired to know that he was heir presumptive to the Earldom of Clarendon, and that it was probable that he would one day bear a title ennobled beyond what kingly patent can confer by the renown of the classic 'History of the Great Rebellion.' That very gentleman became in lapse of years, from being a Commissioner of Customs, Viceroy of Ireland! It was a great transition from the apart-

ments of Frank Hutchinson in the Custom House to the state chambers of the Castle. But so it was:—and as the Commissioner of Customs by some curious circumstances came to exercise even then considerable influence in Irish affairs, it will be necessary to record his actual position at the time."

—The then "Mr. Commissioner Villiers" (now Earl of Clarendon) is thus sketched in the same manuscript.—

"Very intelligent and singularly industrious, he was well qualified for official labours. His mind had a fondness for minutiae, which found employment in the statistical and financial department of the Customs; and while he held the post, he deservedly earned the reputation of being a first-rate clerk,—quite as good as Manchester or Liverpool could have sent, if the filling of the office had been left to those emporia of commerce. He had a taste also for acquiring information, and was not a mere clerk; and his acquaintance with the higher circles and the sentiment of aristocracy gave him that moderation of view which is essential to one destined to affairs." \* He occasionally went into the Court circles of the Castle, and amused himself by thinking of Gulliver and the Court of Lilliput. Shrewd, courteous, and thoroughly good natured, he gave a very favourable opinion of his character to the few whose intimacy he allowed at Dublin, while acting as Commissioner. He had a strong sense of the ridiculous, without carrying it so far as to become indurated with the habits of an *esprit moqueur*; which latter tendency virtually incapacitates a man for playing his part with sufficient gravity in the comedy of life."

It appears, that Commissioner Villiers at first disliked Dublin society, and led rather a retired life. The Court circle at the Castle was in those days, according to the manuscript, rather narrow and bigotted. But while discharging his official duties Mr. Villiers was brought into contact with a variety of persons,—and amongst others, with an ambitious Whig attorney, who gave him a most lively account of a select circle of Whig wits and *littérateurs*, and persuaded the Commissioner to dine with him specially to meet a score of them. We have ourselves heard a distinguished person, now of high official station, give a graphic account of the very dinner described in the manuscript; but we proceed to a passage where the writer glances at the assemblies of a far more brilliant house.—

"Among the houses at Dublin where the Commissioner was to be found, was the pleasant, lively, and hospitable mansion of Lady Morgan, in Kildare Street. The *soirées* given by that sparkling writer were always agreeable. In those days, the *New Monthly Magazine* was written nearly entirely by a select circle of essayists and *hommes d'esprit* who used to love to congregate in Lady Morgan's drawing-room, and stimulate their faculties by the coffee and conversation of their brilliant hostess. The lions, if not of the largest size, still formed a very noisy *menagerie*; and their roar was agreeably diversified with epigrammatic smartness, the scintillations of Irish fancy, and the humorous outpourings of Dublin jocosity. There might be found of an evening the venerable Kirwan, wasted by delicacy till he seemed a creature of another world—the first of Irish chemists, not only in precedence but in originality; and beside him might be observed a grand and massive form, surmounted by a noble head—that of Archibald Hamilton Rowan, a chivalrous and mistaken enthusiast in politics, whose name is embalmed in immortal eloquence by the tongue of Curran. Standing near with keen features and abstracted air, his eyes lustrous with spirit and intelligence, was the son of the orator just named—William Henry Curran; whose delicate organization only prevented the world from knowing that the son inherited the genius of the sire."

With this circle of Dublin life open to him, and enjoying it much, Mr. Villiers had ample opportunities for exercising his keen faculties of observation. At that time his brother, the late Mr. Hyde Villiers, held an important post at the Ordnance,—and he was in

constant official intercourse with the late Duke of Wellington, who distinguished him with his particular notice. Between the two brothers there was a prolonged and important correspondence, which is described with some particularity in these Dublin Court recollections. It appears that the Duke of Wellington had an opportunity of seeing the Commissioner's letters written from Dublin at a most critical period, and Mr. Hyde Villiers was able to answer these letters with knowledge scarcely less interesting. We may remark, before extracting the following curious anecdote about the dissolution of the "Catholic Association," that Lord Cloncurry, in his "Autobiography," writing of a few months later than this period, mentions the fact of the active though secret part then taken in political affairs at Dublin by Commissioner Villiers, in conjunction with Lord Anglesey, the late Right Hon. Anthony Blake, and other parties still living. With this slight preface, the following anecdote will be read with interest.—

"One night while the general circle were occupied with admiring Lady Morgan conversing in a leath of living languages, and decking them with quotations from the tongues of antiquity, Commissioner Villiers called into a corner a member of the Bar with whom he often conversed, and drew his attention to the state of Catholic affairs. It was just after Peel had announced the change of the ministerial policy in 1829, and there was some division of opinion as to the course which should be pursued towards the Catholic Association,—whether it should be put down simultaneously with the Act of Emancipation, or whether the Catholic body was to be allowed to act as it chose. Mr. Hyde Villiers had written over to the Commissioner a letter in which it was most urgently recommended that the Catholic Association should, if possible, be got to dissolve itself. The letter stated all the reasons for such an act. It would relieve the Government from embarrassment, and it would also supply it with additional argument in favour of the measure, and conciliate the feelings of the King towards the Bill of Emancipation, into which circumstances alone coerced him. The letter, or part of it, was read on that evening to Mr. Woalfe (afterwards Chief Baron), and to another member of the Bar, not inferior to Woalfe in acumen and vigour of intellect. Their opinions on the feasibility of getting the Association to dissolve itself were sounded by the Commissioner, and Woalfe at once said, 'Why not take Sheil into your confidence about it? He is in the room now.' The Commissioner doubted whether it would be advisable even for Sheil's own sake that he should be consulted, at least just then, as Sheil was so prominent a member of the body. But Woalfe urged that by all means Sheil's opinion should be obtained. When Sheil heard the letter from Mr. Hyde Villiers read to him, with his characteristic quickness, he cried—'Most important, most important; but 't is in vain to think of doing anything without *Dan's* consent.' At that time O'Connell was at Darreynane, having left his Dublin beagles to enjoy the sweeter music of his Kerry ones. Sheil instinctively saw that the prodigious personal influence and the ulterior ambition of O'Connell would offer powerful incentives to the Agitator's opposition to such a measure as the abolition of the Association; it would appear in his eyes like an act of self-extinction. But after listening to the views put forward by the Commissioner, and hearing Woalfe and the fourth member of the Circle (since raised to the Judicial seat), Sheil gave way, and confessed that the thing was worth trying, and cried out, in his shrill sharp tones, 'It can be done only in one way.' When he mentioned one way, the group stood *arrectis auribus*.—'Yes! there is one way: we must commence by giving a dinner, and we can have it coolly talked over at my table. I will invite the chiefs of our "fierce democratic," and assail them at once with argument and claret, and endeavour to secure their approval of my policy *in futuro* and my dinner *in presenti*,—and you, Mr. Villiers, must consent to be of the party. It will be absolutely necessary to have your presence.' Mr. Villiers bowed assent, and told Sheil he was at his disposal if his

presence could in anywise assist in bringing about so desirable an object as the dissolution of an Association that caused so much alarm to England and so much embarrassment to Ministers. Sheil, full of glee at the pleasure of working up the plot, rubbed his hands, gave his sarcastic chuckle, and the circle dissolved, to meet at the popular orator's table, and try, if possible, to bring about the consummation hinted at by Hyde Villiers. \* \* On the appointed evening, the table of Sheil was surrounded by nearly a score of influential persons more or less connected with the Association. Mr. Villiers sat at the right hand of the host, and attentively listened to the variety of opinions broached in the course of the animated discussion that ensued when Sheil urged the necessity of dissolving the body. At that time there was a sort of delegation which sent representatives for particular districts to the Association; and amongst these delegates was Mr. Reynolds, afterwards Member for Dublin. He was on that evening one of the guests at Sheil's table, and he was one of the steadiest and most vehement opponents to the policy of dissolution. The majority of the company, as Mr. Villiers was very glad to perceive, were decided in favour of dissolving; Mr. Reynolds and other delegates dissented to the last. Even these, however, showed some tendency to give way.—'What am I to do with my constituents, Mr. Sheil?' said Mr. Reynolds, alluding to the people of the district which had returned him to the Association.—'Why,' cried Sheil, *more suo*, 'you must take into account that the public has a very short memory.'—Then and there, on that evening, it was resolved that the Association should be dissolved, and that no time should be lost in doing so."

Thus it will be seen, that when Mr. Villiers was sent as Ambassador to Madrid, he went to that country with a vast stock of commercial knowledge already laid up, and with faculties exercised in political life. His services there obtained him the Cross of the Bath; and on his succession to his uncle's title he became a member of the Whig Cabinet of Lord Melbourne in its declining days. In 1847, on the death of Lord Besborough, his knowledge of Ireland (and we have indicated some of its early sources) obtained his appointment to the Viceroyalty:—and rarely before was Viceroyalty so marked by strange political vicissitudes and curious political incidents of the most uncommon kind. Like everything appertaining to Ireland, his government has been made the subject of indiscriminate eulogy and indiscriminate invective. The most opposite charges have been brought against him from Irish partisans; and Orangemen and Obscurantists have vied with each other in assailing him. We have heard rumours that ere long a history of his Viceroyalty will be given to the public from a practised pen; but we cannot speak with certainty on the point.

The official talents of Lord Clarendon are, we think, beyond cavil. Never was any man's personal appearance in stronger contrast to his character. Tall, and very slight, his attenuated form suggests at first that he could not stand the toil and drudgery of our modern statesmanship. The readers of the 'Rilliad,' in looking at his fair hair and light complexion, and observing his specious manners with his insinuating smile, will at once recollect the line—

The comely Villiers, with his flaxen locks—  
applied to his uncle (John Charles), the friend of the Prince of Wales. Lord Jeffrey, in his letters, talks of "those bright Clarendons,"—and the word "bright" exactly describes the style of Lord Clarendon's conversation. It is keen, animated, and full of intelligence. It does not sparkle with play of fancy, nor does it incline to originality of speculation; but it exhibits familiarity with a vast mass of knowledge, assimilated and digested by the practised intellect of an experienced official, especially conversant with political economy. Without alluding to vulgar invectives, we may say, that

though we have both seen and heard him criticized with great rigour, even one of his most violent personal and political foes once said to ourselves,—"His rank in political life has undoubtedly been acquired by his own abilities." The fact that he rose from being a Customs Commissioner to be Viceroy of Ireland and Secretary for Foreign Affairs, is proof of his secretarial talent and energy in a department of the State.

As a debater Lord Clarendon wants both practice and physical power. His voice, so pleasingly modulated in private, has not sufficient vigour for the stormy combats of the Senate. He often hesitates; and his nervous temperament gives him a flurried manner, which detracts from the weight of his argument. Yet he has great insinuation and address. Eminent as are his talents, and brilliant as are many of his accomplishments, even his admirers would scarcely say that he has the *vivida vis animi* of Lord John Russell or Lord Palmerston. He wants massiveness and muscularity of intellect; but, on the other hand, he has extraordinary activity of mind. His knowledge of commerce, and his perfect acquaintance with the master-springs of British trade, are invaluable attainments to a Cabinet Minister. On the whole, though some particular passages in his Irish Viceroyalty may be open to criticism, an impartial and competent observer is justified in pronouncing that there are few public characters more intellectual or accomplished than he,—and that his talents give additional illustration to the renowned title of "Clarendon."

*Life in the Clearings versus the Bush.* By Mrs. Moodie, Author of 'Roughing it in the Bush.' Bentley.

THOUGH she were twenty-times as experienced in 'Life in the Bush' as her former books have shown her to be,—if Mrs. Moodie sees it good to exchange bush-farming for book-making, she must not escape such visitation as belongs to all book-makers whatever be their degree or have been their antecedents. There is the made-up tone and style of the magazine, the annual, and the pic-nic volume in Mrs. Moodie's new effort to turn Canada into a pocket *Eldorado*. We go on through scraps of verse, sketches of character, a trifle altered and improved for exhibition, cuttings from the local papers concerning famous criminals and their infamous deeds,—glibly and spiritedly it is true, but with a sense of unreality—a pervading assurance that we are dealing with a professional authoress—such as prevents our giving to this work a reception as cordial as that which we gave to its predecessor,—and such as warrants our hoping that Mrs. Moodie will not further bring the "sweepings" of her experience to market now that the real, valuable truths in her wallet have been all purchased, paid for, and sent home.

As we have been obliged to hit "this nail on the head" in criticizing her new book, it is not inopportune that our extract should show (from her own testimony) how a professional authoress may be treated in the Clearings.—The following bit is full of humour.—

"Once I was driven by a young Irish friend to call upon the wife of a rich farmer in the country. We were shown by the master of the house into a very handsomely furnished room, in which there was no lack of substantial comfort, and even of some elegancies, in the shape of books, pictures, and a piano. The goodman left us to inform his wife of our arrival, and for some minutes we remained in solemn state, until the mistress of the house made her appearance. She had been called from the washtub, and, like a sensible woman, was not ashamed of her domestic occupation. She came in wiping the suds from her hands on her apron, and gave us a very hearty and friendly welcome. She was a short, stout, middle-aged woman, with a very pleasing coun-

tenance ; and though only in her coloured flannel working-dress, with a nightcap on her head, and spectacled nose, there was something in her frank good-natured face that greatly prepossessed us in her favour. After giving us the common compliments of the day, she drew her chair just in front of me, and, resting her elbows on her knees, and dropping her chin between her hands, she sat regarding me with such a fixed gaze that it became very embarrassing. 'So,' says she, at last, 'you are Mrs. M.—?' 'Yes.—The woman that writes?'—'The same.—She drew back her chair for a few paces, with a deep-drawn sigh, in which disappointment and surprise seemed strangely to mingle. 'Well, I have he'd a great deal about you, and I wanted to see you had for a long time; but you are only a humly person like myself after all. Why I do think, if I had on my best gown and cap, I should look a great deal younger and better than you.'—I told her that I had no doubt of the fact.—'And pray,' continued she, with the same provoking scrutiny, 'how old do you call yourself?'—I told her my exact age.—'Humph!' quoth she, as if she rather doubted my word, 'two years younger nor me! you look a great deal older nor that.' After a long pause, and another searching gaze, 'Do you call those teeth your own?'—'Yes,' said I, laughing; for I could retain my gravity no longer; 'in the very truest sense of the word they are mine, as God gave them to me.'—'You are luckier than your neighbours,' said she. 'But ain't you greatly troubled with headaches?'—'No,' said I, rather startled at this fresh interrogatory.

"My!" exclaimed she, "I thought you must be, your eyes are so sunk in your head. Well, well, so you are **Mrs. M.**—of Belleville, the woman that writes. You are but a humly body after all!"—While this curious colloquy was going on, my poor Irish friend sat on thorns, and tried, by throwing in a little judicious blarney, to soften the thrusts of the home truths to which he had unwittingly exposed me. Between every pause in the conversation, he broke in with—"I am sure **Mrs. M.**—is a fine-looking woman—very young-looking woman for her age. Any person might know at a glance that those teeth were her own. They look too natural to be false."

Whether the plain comments of the woman, amazed to find that the lion was no such great thing after all, or the pleasing flatteries of the lion's friend and defender, were the droller, it is hard to decide. We know not what further can be made of 'Life in the Clearings'; seeing that in one page we find a terrible account of Grace Marks the murderer,—in the next, some rhymes 'To the Wind,'—further on, such heterogeneous topics as the 'Madhouse' in Toronto, an example of Canadian courtesy, and a ballad on 'The Banner of England,' served up salad-wise in company,—and lastly, the volume (which, by the way, if it have any theme, has a trip for Niagara by way of subject), closes with a national song, all about 'London!'—Fluency is one useful requisite for authorship, but purpose (beyond the purpose of money-getting) is another and a better one.

## OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

*Dudley Ronan; or, the Bible v. Error.*—This novel, which is put forward by the Rev. Mr. McIlwaine, in an editorial preface, on the score of its doctrinal advantages, must be treated by the *Athenaeum* as among the silly tales which, however good they be to laugh at, are not good to read, and are, therefore, not good to have written. Few will require more circumstantial evidence in proof of our epithet than is furnished by the following love-scene.—“Emma was standing in the doorway leading to the conservatory when she said this; and Dudley longed ardently to be alone with her, even for a few seconds, to effect which, he said, carelessly, ‘May I rob you of a slip of heliotrope?’ and, passing into the green-house, he managed adroitly to oblige Emma to step backwards in order to admit him. ‘Which plant may I cut?’ he asked, inducing Emma to remove still further from the dining-room, where her parents were seated, to point out to him the plant in

richest flower. Having thus succeeded in manoeuvring the unsuspicous Emma out of earshot, he said, hurriedly, 'I cannot leave this part of the world without telling you how deeply your society has enhanced its attractiveness. May I hope that, if I can return soon, I may be permitted to renew an acquaintance so highly valued by me?' Emma felt that she was blushing deeply at this address, conveyed as it was in an impressive *sotto-voce*; and although hers was a mind as destitute of mere *mauvaise honte* as it was of any shade of disingenuousness, yet since the accident which had revealed to her the fact of her rose-bud having been secretly treasured by Dudley, she had certainly experienced different feelings regarding him; although it was impossible to define exactly in what that difference consisted, she had become possessed of a secret, in (what her delicate sense of honour construed into) a surreptitious manner, and this was the latent cause of much of her embarrassment at their first meeting after his return to consciousness. Recovering, however, from the confusion into which his address had thrown her, she replied, 'It is always pleasurable to me, Mr. Ronan, to renew the acquaintance of any friend of my parents.' There was not much to be made out of this; and Dudley was gathering up his artillery to commence the attack in some more direct form, when the announcement came that the post-chaise was at the door. 'Good morning then,' said he, taking her hand; 'I must go now; and you must not be offended if I say with all truthfulness—

Parting is such sweet sorrow,  
That I could say 'adieu!' until to-morrow?"  
—The "*O la*" style is here in perfection.

*The Old House by the River.* By the Author of 'The Owl-Creek Letters.'—With 'The Owl-Creek Letters' (under that taking title, at least,) we cannot call to mind having made acquaintance; neither will we undertake to assert that some portion of the sketches before us may not already have appeared in one of the myriad American periodicals, since the dedicatory preface is merely a part of the fiction, and conveys no real history of the "birth, parentage, or education" of the book. It must, therefore, suffice to say that 'The Old House by the River' is a series of small sentimental tales, in which the writer would seem to have taken Professor Wilson for his model, and treats us to a series of pathetic death-scenes, &c., the like of which we do not recollect save in Christopher North's 'Lights and Shadows of Scottish Life.' This character will suffice for the guidance of those who desire to rank this volume aright among the fictions of America. Though the style of such pathos be not of the purest quality, or of the most powerful order, the sentiment cannot be complained of as wholly insincere, to judge by the impression produced on ourselves.

*Adventures of a Gentleman in search of the Church of England.*—We may not meddle with the perilous matter of this sprightly volume, further than to say that the manner of it is clever, and the sarcasm rather loose than effective.

*Russian Turkey; or, a Greek Empire the inevitable Solution of the Eastern Question.* A Letter to Lord John Russell, as Ministerial Leader in the House of Commons. By G. D. P.—Mr. G. D. P. is a Greek, and he not unnaturally thinks that the best thing for his countrymen would be a restoration, by the Great Powers of Europe, of the Empire of Constantine. There is, our readers know, a good deal of talk just now in London and in Paris on this point; and the theory has propounders among those who cannot hope to gain advantages for themselves out of the change proposed. Statistics are exhibited which look very well on paper, and arguments are used which would tell in a debating society; but it seems to be almost forgotten by these polemics that empires grow or fade on the spot, and take their rise out of the virtues, intelligence, and capacity for self-sacrifice of those who are to form and sustain them. If a Greek Empire is to become a part of the European system, it must appear at Constantinople, not in London. Into the politics of the question we shall not enter; but it may be permitted us to express a doubt whether a friend to free thought, free trade, and free development should take the

present moment to discuss such topics as form the substance of the pamphlet under notice.

*Letters of an Englishman on Louis Napoleon, the Empire, and the Coup-d'Etat*—[*Lettres d'un Anglais, &c.*].—Authorized Translation.—It was natural to expect that these indignant Letters should receive a form more adapted for reading on the continent of Europe than that in which they were originally written. The translation is so well done that the idea of translation escapes the mind in reading them.

*Church History in England, from the Earliest Times to the Period of the Reformation.* By the Rev. A. Martineau.—A book like this—small in compass, but full of facts carefully drawn from many sources—moderate in tone and catholic in its judgments—was really wanted by the general reader of English history. Mr. Martineau speaks of his performance with a modesty not required by the occasion. It begins with the introduction of Christianity into this country, and concludes with an elaborate chapter on Wycliff and his system. Though the work is one from which it is not necessary to make extracts, we must not be supposed on that account to under-rate its merits. It is a really useful book, well digested in its matter, simple and vigorous in its manner.

Among works which may be grouped in a general paragraph we find on our table an elaborate treatise by Mr. Edward Strachey on *Hebrew Politics in the Times of Sargon and Sennacherib*; being an inquiry into the historical meaning and purpose of the prophecies of Isaiah, with an account of the bearing of these prophecies on the social and political life of England. The author says, he began his studies with a view "to ascertain whether an English squire could find in the Bible any political instruction which might avail him at union boards and county elections, and in his relations with the parson and the magistrate, the farmer and the peasant;" and like most other persons who set out with the design to make discoveries, he made them. This large volume is the result of his labours.—*Notes of Evidence on the Metropolis Water Supply* is a reprint of a communication made to the Polytechnic Society of Liverpool by Mr. Boulton.—*Notes on the Causes of Fires in Buildings*, by Mr. W. Papworth, is another work of interest to dwellers in London; it contains the substance of several reports made professionally to a fire-office after the accident at Windsor Castle and the catastrophe at Doncaster.—To pamphlets on the Sabbath Question as raised by the proposed opening of the Crystal Palace at Sydenham we must add the titles—*The Crystal Palace, Ought it to be Opened on a Sunday?* a lecture by Mr. Leblond (question answered in the affirmative), and *The Sabbath made for Man; or, Defence of the Crystal Palace*, by J. R. Butlin.—*The Lay Member's Guide in Visiting the Sick and Poor*, by a District Visitor, with a Recomendatory Preface, by the Rev. P. Carlyon, sufficiently explains its own purpose in its title.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Arnsworth's Tower of London, illustrated by Cruikshank, \$vo. 6d. Brabazon's Historical Tales from Hist. of Muslims in Spain, 2d ed. Bremer's (Miss) Homes of the New World, trans., 3 vols. 51d. Calver's Conservation and Improvement of Tidal Rivers, 78 cl. Collier's (Dr.) Hist. of the Countries of Europe, 12 vols. 12d. Cawell's Elements of Algebra, by J. Wallis, post 8vo. 1s. 2d. Collier's (Dr.) Code for Safety, 2d edit. 8vo. 7s. 6d. Crammer's Memorials, by Strype, new ed. 3 vols. post 8vo. 10s. 6d. Cumming's Sabbath Evening Readings, 'St. Matthew,' &c. 8vo. 8s. 6d. D'Israeli's Curiosities of Literature, 2 vols. 12s. 6d. Godwin's Philosophy of Athelstan, examined, 2d edit. 8vo. 2s. 6d. Guinot's (E.) Summer in Baden-Baden, illust. imp. 8vo. 1s. 2d. gilt. Heir of Redcliffe, 3d edit. 2 vols. fc. 8vo. 1s. 2d. cl. Humphry's Treatise on Book of Common Prayer, post 8vo. 7s. 6d. Jones's (Rev. T.) Memoir, by Owen, 2d edit. royal 12mo. 3s. cl. Kesteven's (Rev. Dr.) Tales, condensed, by F. W. Newman, 5s. Large Long fc. 8vo. 2s. 6d. Macleod and Dewar's (Dra.) Gaelic Dictionary, 8vo. 10s. 6d. cl. Mahon's (Lord) History of England, Vol. 5, post 8vo. 6s. cl. Markham's (Mrs.) History of France, new edit. 18mo. 6s. cl. Millar's First Impressions of England and People, 3rd ed. 72. 6d. Morris's (W.) Work, 2 vols. 12s. 6d. Mansfield's, 12s. 6d. Parlour Lib. 'Lover upon Trial,' fc. 8vo. 1s. 2d. Pennington's (Rev. A. B.) Carrabrook Castle, a Poem, 4to. 2s. 2d. Private Trials and Public Calamities, from the French, 2 vols. 18s. Provost's (The) of Madras, Falney, post 8vo. 7s. 6d. Sackville's (W.) Poems, 2 vols. 12s. 6d. 5 vols. 21s. Scoffers' (Dr.) Chemistry no Mystery, 8vo. 2s. 6d. cl. Southey's Poetical Works, re-issue, Vol. 2, 8vo. 3s. 6d. cl. Soyer's (A.) Pan�ropean; or, the History of Food and its Preparation, royal 8vo. 3s. cl. *Together with* a Manual of Domestic Economy, fc. 8vo. 1s. 6d. cl. Tracy's (Dr.) Health's Perpetual Guide, 8vo. 4s. cl. gilt. Tresser's (Dr.) Confessions of a Working Man, from the French, 'la. Tupper's (M. F.) The Crock of Gold, and other Tales, post 8vo. 5s. 6d. Travers' Lib. 'Bacon's Essays, &c.,' royal 8vo. 1s. 2d. Vernon's Gallery of British Art, 3d Series, folio. 42s. cl. gilt. Waverley Novels, Lib. Edit. 'St. Ronan's Well,' 8vo. 2s. cl.

## LIBRARY OF TRADE AND FINANCE.

A proposal is before the public for carrying out the recommendation for the formation of Special Libraries in our great commercial towns, made by the Committee of the House of Commons on Public Libraries—by the establishment, under the title of “The Paterson Public Library,” of a collection of works on finance, banking and coinage, agriculture and trade, fisheries, navigation and engineering, geography, colonization and travel, statistics and political economy—in short, a complete Library of Trade and Finance—in all languages. The scheme proposes the revival of a foundation laid—or rather, it would seem, contemplated—in Westminster, in the year 1703. It does not appear, that the project ever received further execution than is embodied in a Catalogue of such a collection, now preserved in the British Museum, Harl. MSS. No. 4564:—and as it is conceived that its completion now would be a very useful and appropriate execution of the recommendation of the Parliamentary Committee, a Correspondent who takes an interest in the matter has sent us the following particulars relative to the plan of 1703 and its author.

“At the beginning of the last century, when the great controversy between *Land* and *Trade* took a somewhat popular hold on the public mind, and the parties to that controversy were shadowed by Addison in the persons of Sir Roger de Coverley and Sir Andrew Freeport, the able man who had already founded the Bank of England, and the enterprize of Darien in Central America, lived in Westminster. This was William Paterson, of Dumfries-shire. He had been an eminent merchant in London from 1684,—taking an active part in everything that concerned public interests. About 1690 he was a lessee of the Hampstead Waterworks for the city; and among other merits, being a good engineer, he was a zealous promoter of city *sanitary* improvements.

“In the course of his great experience as a banker and trader, he had observed the want of intelligence on the principles and facts which constitute the elements of commercial and economical science,—and an intimate acquaintance with which is essential, not only to commercial success, but to just taxation. He had long been familiarly consulted by distinguished statesmen on financial subjects; first by Godolphin, afterwards by Harley and Walpole,—and it is believed that King William the Third held him personally in much esteem. There is a tradition that, besides being a warm partisan in the City of the Revolution of 1688, he did good service at the Battle of the Boyne; and it is certain, that shortly before the death of the King, Paterson had convinced His Majesty of the wisdom of his plans for the extension of colonial enterprise in Central America,—a policy which characterized the measure of our greatest statesmen in Pitt's time,—and which Benbow, Hosier, Vernon, Anson, and Nelson helped to carry out.

“Deeply impressed with the want of science amongst our merchants and politicians, Mr. Paterson, in 1703, gave his own books, printed and in manuscript, as the first contribution to a public library of trade and finance. The Catalogue of this collection is preserved in the British Museum. It shows the extent of his own studies; and includes a considerable number of works in Dutch, German, French, and other modern languages, amounting together to 500 volumes.

“It is sometimes loosely said, Paterson was a Buccaneer. His books, however, prove him to have possessed a more legitimate means of knowing what the Buccaneers had experience of. He possessed Dampier, Sharpe, Ringrose, and the collection published by Hacke in 1699,—with other voyages to all parts.

“On agriculture and engineering he had books worth looking into even now; and his 200 volumes on Coinage, Taxation, Finance, Banking, Navigation, Fisheries, and Trade are invaluable as showing the sources from which William Paterson drew principles that we are at length beginning to appreciate correctly. Here may be found the origin of the Bank of England, and traces of the controversies which attended its progress; with the records of the difficulties about the coinage in

King William's time,—and of the greater difficulties about the supply of money to the State:—both of which Paterson contributed greatly to remove. He had the merit of reducing the interest of the money wanted by Government; and his own writings may still be consulted with advantage in regard to the reduction of the public burthens by the first payment of the National Debt.

“The department of Commerce is singularly curious as exhibiting the struggle of Free Trade in its infancy. Paterson was the father of Free Trade in England; and his statue ought to be erected with Sir Robert Peel's. He was studious to hear both sides on this question:—and took care to have the ‘Discourse showing the export of wool to be destruction to the kingdom’ ranged by the side of the ‘Reasons for a limited export of wool.’

“He had taken an active part in the resistance to the East India Company's monopoly; and his library contained many volumes on the subject.

“On every branch of social statistics and political economy he had something:—so that, it could not be difficult to build upon his foundation the ‘special’ library of trade which Mr. Ewart's Committee on Public Libraries has recommended. The good Commercial Library at Hamburg, now amounting to 40,000 volumes, is sometimes thought to have been the first of the kind founded. Paterson's preceded it by thirty years. It would be a curious discovery for the Charity Trust Commission to make, to stumble upon this old foundation treasure. In the mean time, the Catalogue may be commended to all who are interested in finance and in mercantile lore.”

A few more particulars relating to the man whose name it is proposed to give to the new institution we borrow from the little pamphlet put forth to advocate the project:—

“William Paterson is well known as the founder of the Bank of England; and of the great Scottish enterprise in Darien, after the disasters in which he is generally thought to have entirely retired from the world— to Scotland; ‘pitted and neglected.’ The fact is quite otherwise. These disasters occurred in 1698—1700. But after the latter year was elected member for Dumfries. He resided in Westminster from 1701 to his death in 1718; consulted by the most eminent ministers—Godolphin, Harley, and Walpole: as can be proved by positive evidence. In contemporary books he is classed with Defoe; and it is extremely probable, that he was the type of Sir Andrew Freeport in the *Spectator*. It is certain that William the Third had held him in high esteem, and that Paterson's enlightened views were adopted for the guidance of our public policy when the king suddenly died. What an incomparable man he was, may be inferred from the last two events of his life. After a long struggle, carried on, indeed, with the support of many zealous friends, he compelled a reluctant administration to pay him a large indemnity for his losses in the Darien Colony. The proofs of the fact, are found in the Journals of Parliament, in the Statute Book, and in the warrants for the formation of the Royal Bank of Scotland. This tardy justice enabled him to pay his own debts; to provide liberally for his numerous relatives; and what must have been a source of deep satisfaction, to make a munificent acknowledgment of the friendship of the generous Daranda, his executor. The probate of his will establishes these facts. \* \* Diligent search, and liberal co-operation, have already brought out the noble character, and the vast acquirements of William Paterson in brilliant points of view.—The British Museum has precious remains of his writings. The London Institution and the City Records contain something about them, and about other remarkable members of his family. The most respected of Scottish antiquaries, and estimable men in all parts of Scotland, are contributing valuable material to his genuine story. In the *Darien Papers* the Banffshire Club has lately published important documents which show the share he had in that enterprise. In various private libraries in England such materials are to be found of even a more interesting kind.”

Can any reader of our own help us to a scent towards the hunt after this old collection of books?

## BRANSBY COOPER.

The medical profession has sustained, as we announced last week, a heavy loss in the death of this distinguished surgeon. He had been for some time in ill health,—and was seized with his fatal attack on Wednesday the 18th inst. while at the Athenæum Club. He was in the sixty-first year of his age. Although not brought up in early life to the medical profession, his relationship to the great Sir Astley Cooper, with whom he was on the most intimate terms, served to give him a position in the profession that he finally adopted, which by his talents and industry he ever afterwards maintained.

Bransby Cooper was the fourth son of the

Rev. Samuel Cooper, the elder brother of Sir Astley Cooper,—and was born at Great Yarmouth on the 2nd of September, 1792. Like his celebrated professional brother Liston's, his early taste pointed to the sea,—and when quite a lad he was entered as a midshipman on board the *Stately*, a 64-gun ship. His health failing him, he gave up the navy; and at his uncle's suggestion adopted the study of medicine. With this view he repaired to Norwich,—where he studied at the Hospital for two years. He came afterwards to London; and studied as a pupil of Mr. Hodgson,—who afterwards became known as a surgeon of high reputation in Birmingham. In the year 1812 Mr. Cooper entered the army as assistant-surgeon in the Royal Artillery,—and he was engaged in active service in the Peninsula. He was present at the battles of Vittoria, the Pyrenees, Nivelle, and Orthes, at the siege of St. Sebastian, and at the battle of Toulouse. Mr. Cooper was admitted a member of the Royal College of Surgeons in 1823,—in 1843 he was elected an Honorary Fellow of the College,—and in 1848 he was made a member of the Council. In 1820 he became Demonstrator of Anatomy in St. Thomas's Hospital;—and he was afterwards appointed Surgeon to Guy's.

Mr. Cooper wrote a work on Ligaments, which was much wanted at the time when it appeared,—and was well received. He contributed many papers to the medical journals and the Guy's Hospital Reports, and published separate works on various points of surgery—on fractures and dislocations in particular. He edited, as we have already said, and as many of our readers knew, the Biography of his uncle, the late Sir Astley Cooper. His great surgical experience gave weight to his opinion; and in the latter part of his career he had a large consulting practice. He was an eminently kind-hearted man, — and had many of those qualities which made his uncle so much esteemed. He has left behind him not only a widow and family to lament his loss,—but a large circle of attached friends who will share in their regrets.

The *Times* of yesterday says, that, from the post mortem examination of the body it appears that the immediate cause of death was a malignant disease of the throat, involving a large branch of the carotid artery, which, becoming ulcerated, gave way, and produced instantaneous death by filling the lungs with blood.

## THE SNOWY MOUNTAINS OF EASTERN AFRICA.

It is now upwards of four years since intelligence reached Europe of the discovery of snowy mountains in Eastern Africa. The discovery was in itself so remarkable, that the report, appearing as it did in rather an unscientific dress, did not at first gain universal credence. It was, however, subsequently confirmed by repeated journeys in that region. It need scarcely be added, that the mountains here alluded to are Kilimanjaro and Kenia, discovered by the missionaries Rebmann and Krapf, stationed at Rabbai Empia, near Mombas. Kilimanjaro lies in about 31° south latitude and 37° east longitude, and about 160 geographical miles west-north-west from Mombas; and is an isolated, very conspicuous peak somewhat like Mount Ararat,—probably connected, on its western side, with the table-lands of Inner Africa. The missionaries have become acquainted with its eastern, southern, and northern aspects,—whereas the other peak, Mount Kenia, has been seen only from the south, at a distance of six days' journey, or about 80 geographical miles. It lies in about 1° south latitude and 38° east longitude. Whether it forms an isolated peak similar to Kilimanjaro, or is connected with other mountains in the north, remained unknown to Dr. Krapf.

The missionaries, those pioneers of geographical discovery, commenced their journeys in 1847; and though the results of their labours are not exceeded in geographical interest and importance by any other discoveries made in recent times, it must be much regretted that they have hitherto failed in attracting scientific explorers to that very promising region.

An interesting communication which I have

just received, prompts me to draw the attention of the public to this subject. Capt. J. H. Short, who has been for some time in command of various vessels belonging to His Highness the Imam of Muscat, has favoured me with an account, from his personal experience, of the East African coast from Brava, north of the equator, to Delagoa Bay in the south, comprising the Zanzibar, Mozambique and Sofala coasts. This account contains important information respecting the hydrography of this extensive tract, its inhabitants, natural productions, and climate, as well as its commercial relations. On this occasion, I will only give a few extracts which are immediately connected with the subject of these lines.

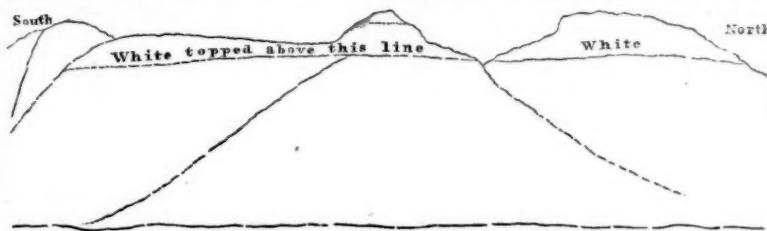
Right under the equator the Juba or Jub, a considerable river, enters the Indian Ocean.—“The entrance of this river,” says Capt. Short, “is open to the sea, and may be approached with safety in the fine weather season. I have ascended this river to a great distance, and found the natives quiet and ready to trade, particularly in cotton prints. It is not very high land, and the pasture is good. But at a distance inland I perceived high

mountains, with white tops, lying north and south. They are said to contain mines. I was informed by the natives that the river extended far inland, and branched off in various directions. I ascended the river in a small schooner, and had ample room to beat about, taking the ground occasionally but not hurting the vessel,—the depth of water being good for small vessels. At some distance from the entrance exists a hard red iron-ore-like reef across the river, but a passage between may be found. My crew consisted of natives of the coast of Zanzibar, who stood the fatigue well.”—Capt. Short estimates the distance which he sailed up the river to be about 210 miles from its mouth, bearing about from west-north-west to north-west. From that point reached by him the white-topped mountains bore to the southward of west a little, distance about 60 miles. It was in November 1849 when he made that journey; and he adds—“I have thought that a sketch of those white-topped mountains would be useful in giving some idea, in the event of any one visiting that region. I never thought of snow existing in those parts, but white-topped the mountains were, and very high.”

fine as that of Shoa. Indeed the sojourn of the missionaries in Mombas (now upwards of six years) seems to have been connected with less difficulty than their previous travels in Abyssinia and Shoa; than which there is no other part of tropical Africa which has of late been visited by so many explorers,—the number of European travellers in Abyssinia within forty years being no less than forty-two. The immense field opened out by the missionaries to the west of Mombas is worthy the attention alike of the scientific man bent on geographical discovery, of the ordinary tourist thirsting for novel adventure, and of the sportsman in quest of such sport as prompted a Harris or a Gordon Cumming to undertake much more extensive journeys in Southern Africa. The Imam of Muscat, under whose dominions are the coasts of Zanzibar, is very kind to Europeans, and particularly to the English.

In fine, such a journey as proposed would be of the highest interest and importance, whether—to borrow the words of Dr. Beke, who has so much exerted himself in this cause—“as concerns the solution of a geographical problem which has in all ages been deemed worthy of the attention of princes not less than of philosophers,—or whether as regards the opening up of a portion of Africa which enjoys a climate of a character directly opposite to that of the unhealthy regions on the western coast, and which is inhabited by millions of our fellow-creatures who appear to be far more fitted to receive the blessings of Christian civilization than those in most other parts of that vast continent.”

AUGUSTUS PETERMANN.



Sketch of the Mountains seen by Capt. H. J. Short.

The above is an exact copy of this sketch as given to me by Capt. Short. It adds greatly to the interest of the statement respecting the “white-topped” mountains. It cannot be doubted that what the eyes of an experienced British seaman saw were really “very high mountains” with “white tops.” The interesting sketch tells us that these mountains consist of a continuous range, and that the line of the white tops ceases at a uniform elevation. There can be little doubt that this line forms the *Limit of Snow*. It is quite natural that Capt. Short, unacquainted with the discoveries of the missionaries, and having probably never seen a snowy range in the Tropics, should not have “thought” of snow, but “merely wondered” at the “white tops” of the range,—and that he now should state the fact just as it occurred to him at the time.

On comparing the position of the mountains seen by Capt. Short with that of Mount Kenya, it will be seen, that the former are about 150 geographical miles due north of the latter; and it appears to me a reasonable supposition, that Mount Kenya may form the southern end of a connected range of high mountains, and which are, either permanently or at times only, covered with snow. For, as Capt. Short ascended the river in one of the winter months, it is not unlikely that the mountains which he saw may be covered with snow only during that season and not all the year round. Of the mountains seen by the missionaries, it is, to me, beyond a shadow of doubt, that at least Kilimanjaro has perpetual snow.

Though the existence of snow in the Tropical regions of Eastern Africa is a feature of great geographical interest,—that region would, even without snow, be still of the same geographical and commercial importance:—as I venture to suggest in the following remarks.—Of the vast unknown interior of Africa the portion immediately to the west of the snowy mountains under consideration is probably the most interesting, as comprising the heads of the Nile and other large rivers, the famous mountains of the moon, and in short, the very nucleus of those geographical phenomena which from the days of the builders of the Pyramids down to the present time have been questions of exciting interest,—as little solved now as in the age of Ptolemy. Travellers endeavouring to penetrate from Abyssinia or from Nubia up the Nile, from

Lake Tsad or the western coasts, have found insurmountable obstacles. It has been either the great distance, the nature of the climate, or the character of the inhabitants which offered those obstacles. Even that fearless and successful traveller Dr. Barth found his means insufficient to undertake the journey towards that region; for to him the chief and almost only difficulty was, to force his way beyond the border-territory of the Pagans, who consider those coming from the neighbouring Mohammedan states as their bitterest enemies,—and this required a greater number of persons than were at his disposal.

The coast of Zanzibar offers, indeed, the most accessible and advantageous points to reach that interesting region. A journey to Mount Kilimanjaro is alone worthy the highest ambition of any explorer. Such a journey can scarcely be called more than a pleasant trip in these days of rapid locomotion, and is not beyond the means of private persons. It reduces itself into two portions; from Southampton *via* Aden to Mombas, and from Mombas a further distance equal to that from London to the mountains of Wales. Mombas is easily reached, with little outlay and in a short space of time. From Mombas Kilimanjaro may be reached in eight or ten days without any unusual danger or great exertion. Surely if the missionaries have travelled that distance repeatedly, armed with nothing but “an umbrella,” professional travellers well equipped may very easily accomplish the same feat; and when it is considered, as Sir Roderick Murchison has declared, “that the adventurous travellers who shall first lay down the true position of these equatorial snow mountains will be justly considered among the greatest benefactors of this age to geographical science,” it must be a matter of surprise that no one has as yet come forward to undertake the journey, were it but to gain the laurels so readily and temptingly offered. The character of the inhabitants seems far more favourable in their conduct to travellers than in other parts of Africa; and as to the climate, from the experience of the missionaries, it must be exceedingly favourable. When approaching towards Kilimanjaro the fine bracing air recalled to the missionaries that of Switzerland; and Krapf mentions that the climate of Usambara, a country near the sea, where another missionary station was in progress of being founded, was as

#### OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

The Report, just issued, of the Board of National Education in Ireland for the past year makes us regret more than ever the unhappy circumstances which have led to a change in the management,—and, especially, to the injudicious retirement of so old a servant in the cause as Archbishop Whately. This report shows how firm and continuous is the growth of popular feeling in favour of secular teaching. In the year current there was an increase of 171 in the number of schools, and of 24,203 in the number of scholars. The returns of the sale of books exhibit an equally gratifying evidence of progress. Looking at the general averages, we are struck with the fact that so large a proportion of the rising generation of Ireland is enjoying the advantages of a good secular education as compared against that in our own immediate country. At the close of last year there were in effective operation in Ireland 4,875 national schools, having on their rolls the names of 544,604 pupils; seventy-five other schools, capable of accommodating 7,457 pupils, were in progress:—so that, by the time we write there are probably somewhat more than 550,000 scholars receiving a sound secular training in the sister island. Taking the whole population, men, women, and children, at six millions, this is a large proportion,—much larger, we fancy, than will prove to be the case in England, including schools of all shades of opinion and degrees of excellence. Judging by the rapid progress of the past—a progress altogether legitimate, subject to no viscidities, steady as a law of nature,—there is great reason to believe that in a few years, notwithstanding the bigotry of some and the well-meaning but destructive zeal of others, the secular schools will supersede every kind of class and sectional schools in that sect-divided island. We notice with great satisfaction, as proof that the priestly parties exercise less influence over education than is sometimes attributed to them, that these secular schools are most largely employed in the training of the Catholic part of the people; and at the same we notice that the proportion of Protestants to Catholics in the school-rooms is very much the same as in the general population returns. Of the managers of the system one-third are of the Reformed Churches, Episcopalian, Presbyterian, Baptist, and so forth,—of the teachers one-fifth,—of the children one-seventh. All these figures point to the satisfactory conclusion, that, in spite of ancient animosities of race and creed—in spite of the interested opposition, more or less violent,

of the various hierarchies,—the people of Ireland, after a fair trial of twenty years' duration, have found in the secular school-room a common ground on which opinions may meet, where passions are silent, and through which there opens a new vista into a future for their country more peaceful, brotherly, and prosperous than the past.

A mail from the Cape of Good Hope announces the death of Lady Sale, the historian of the vicissitudes and sufferings of the captivity in Afghanistan. She expired at Cape Town on the 6th of July. Since her return to the East, Lady Sale had resided chiefly in the hill country, on the pension granted by the Queen. Her death adds one more to the list of departed Englishwomen who in life were remarkable both as writers and as actors,—whose literary ability had been first discovered in telling the story of their own careers. We have never yet been able to read the Afghanistan journal of Lady Sale without recurring to the equally graceful and vigorous memoirs of Mrs. Hutchinson, or without reflecting how many so-called "mute" Mrs. Hutchinsons and Lady Sales there may be in the pleasant homes of England who are never heard of beyond their domestic circles, because civil wars and invasions of Afghanistan are happily of rare occurrence.

During the past week a conspicuous comet has been visible a little above the N.W. horizon at dusk.

Dr. Schönbein has commissioned Dr. John Drew, a member of the Council of the British Meteorological Society, to bring before the notice of meteorological observers in this country his simple method of ascertaining the amount of ozone in the atmosphere. Dr. Schönbein's Ozonometer is in general use throughout Germany, — and he is anxious that corresponding observations should be taken in England. Dr. Drew has issued a circular inquiring whether, to promote this object, parties are willing to undertake daily observations for a year, forwarding the results to him every three months, for transmission to Bâle. The results, he says, would be highly interesting, as supplying the means of ascertaining approximately the electric state of the atmosphere.

The use of logo-types, instead of letter-types, in printing, is not new. The machinery exhibited by Major Beniowski in Waterloo Place a few days ago has some points of interest: but the idea of his "invention" is in Europe almost as old as printing,—while in China it is much more ancient. Many founts have been cast of logo-types. Towards the end of the last century, one of the London newspapers was printed with these types; and efforts have since been made—with little or no success, we fancy—to introduce mixed founts into use in printing-offices. The frequent repetition of certain words—articles, conjunctions, and prepositions, more especially—would lead to the supposition, as a matter of theory, that a mixed fount would be useful; yet the additional size of the frames and the complication of elements appear to constitute a difficulty greater than the corresponding advantage. Major Beniowski is a most ingenious person: but it may be doubted whether his logo-types will be found more useful in practice than the phreno-types in the science of which he has passed so many years of his life and expended so much inventive faculty.

The privilege of sending books, papers, and magazines through the Post-office at the low rates has been extended, by an order of the Treasury, to Prince Edward Island. This privilege is accompanied by the conditions imposed on the transmission of books and printed papers to the other colonies of the empire.

The death of the Rev. F. W. Robertson, at an early age, will cause wide and sincere regret among many who were in the habit of joining his congregation at Brighton for the purpose of enjoying his remarkable pulpit eloquence. It claims, also, a word of regret in the *Athenæum*, because he was one whose labours were conducted in a spirit as liberal as it was zealous:—looked at in this point of view his addresses delivered at the popular institutions at Brighton may be also commemorated as remarkable. His two published lectures 'On the Influence of Poetry on the Working Classes

are full of large truths and genial sympathies, giving the lecturer a claim on general as well as local remembrance.

A Dalton Memorial Committee was named some time ago, as our readers are aware, in Manchester, with a view to consider the most appropriate way in which the fund raised by public subscription could be invested, so as to do honour to the dead, gratify the pride of the city in which he laboured, and serve the interests of the living. This Committee has decided that the money shall be expended partly in a bronze statue, partly in a tombstone, and partly in founding two or more scholarships in connexion with Owens College. In spirit, this decision is unexceptionable,—to the mode in which it is proposed to be carried out there are many who will probably object. The tombstone over the philosopher's grave—the scholarships to bear his name—every one may approve: but surely, if it be desirable to have a bronze statue at all, it is politic to have a new statue, not an old one. As their minutes now stand, the Committee recommend the people of Manchester, who have already Chantrey's statue of Dalton in the hall of the Royal Institution, to make an exact copy of it,—this being a little cheaper than a new model. This is certainly an instance of the questionable working of an economical spirit in the centre of industrial England, such as those who like to sneer at Manchester and Manchester men will not fail to turn to their own advantage. If Chantrey's Dalton were in London we could understand how Manchester might desire to have a fac-simile,—though even then we should have preferred to see them aim at originality. But two copies of the same statue in the same town! The story runs of a person who, desiring to read a certain book through again, sent to the publishers for a second copy: a reasonable proceeding by the side of this new idea of a great city, like Manchester, while designing to do honour to its most distinguished citizen, exhibiting such a spectacle to the world as a duplicate of its own memorial, however able and respectable the work. We scarcely think that, on consideration, the townsmen of Dalton will accept this instance of spurious economy and questionable taste.

Now and then, though the old spirit of charity is still active amongst us, a will turns up which in its largeness of terms and benevolence of purpose recalls rather the founders of our great charitable institutions. Such a will is that of the late R. S. Cox, of London in later times, but originally of Coventry. This worthy gentleman has divided upwards of 12,000/- between the schools and hospitals of the city of his birth and of that of his adoption. Coventry obtains 6,000/- from his munificence, free from legacy duty: namely, the Girl's Blue Coat School, 1,500/-,—Fairfax's School, 1,000/-,—Bayley's School, 1,000/-,—the Bablake Boys' Charity, 500/-,—the old Bablake Men's Charity, 500/-,—the Coventry and Warwickshire Hospital, 1,500/- If we are not mistaken, this is the largest bequest to the city of Coventry for three hundred years.

The *Liverpool Mail* has the following foolish story communicated by a Correspondent:—to which it is fair to say, however, that the *Mail* attaches no value.—"Near Bellmullet, Aug. 15, 1853.—You will have heard, no doubt, that a poor woman picked up a bottle close to this place, containing a letter from Sir John Franklin, dated May last, stating that he is prevented by the natives from leaving an island he is now on; the officer of the Coast Guard forwarded it to the Admiralty, and has just heard that the writing is that of Sir John, so there is yet a chance of his being saved."—Our readers scarcely need our comment on a tale like this.

Our readers may like to hear something of the city which—not long since the wilderness—is now the seat of the great American scientific congress.—"I was much struck," says a Correspondent, writing to us from Cleveland, "with the general appearance. The city is only fifteen years old,—but has gone on flourishingly and in great good taste. It stands on a hill, probably 100 feet above the water; and each of the cross streets opens on to and gives you a view of it,—so that the effect is pretty and pleasant. The Railroad Station is one of the largest that I have seen in

the States. The shops are good and well supplied. There is a great deal of building going on, and principally of large shops. Euclid Street is a fine street, and Superior Street is as wide as Portland Place. One thing which I observed for sale is, the French toy of a bird hopping from perch to perch, which was sold at our Exhibition for 12/-:—here the price asked was 200 dollars, or about 45/-—We went on arrival to the afternoon meeting of the Association, but only for an hour, having no time to spare for abstract science. The business is divided into Sections, as with us. There were, I should say, above a hundred members present."—The Papers read at this congress have been for the greater part of a strictly scientific character.

The Prize system in France appears to be on the decline. This year the Exhibition at the annual meeting of the Academy seems to have been as dull as such meetings always are in this country,—and the literary effort failed almost entirely. No prize was awarded for poetry,—the judges being of opinion that the samples sent in were too bad even for prize-poems. The subject was, the *Acropolis*:—a theme rather difficult to treat under the new French *régime* in the free spirit suggested by its most stirring and poetical associations. It stands over for another year; before which time the mercurial powers who sway the destinies of the land may possibly "open the question." There was no best historical and literary essay: the subject was, the *Comedies of Menander*,—and the prize of 3,000 francs was divided by MM. Charles Benoit and G. Guizot, a son of the celebrated statesman. A notable feature of the meeting was, a clever and spirited harangue by M. Villemain, Perpetual Secretary, full of political allusions:—of course, this speech is suppressed in the French journals.

The Lombard Exhibition of Industrial Art—now open in the Brera Museum in Milan—is described as a sad failure. It occupies five small rooms, and these are not more than half filled:—a few musical and surgical instruments—some indifferent specimens of paper for house decoration—imitations of English and Dresden china, bearing the names of French workmen—a goodly show of church ornaments and terra cottas—and a variety of silk and velvet woven goods make up a collection which if it were to be taken as an exponent of the present social and industrial state of Austrian Italy would be most melancholy. To a certain extent this is the case:—with all the chief cities of Venetia-Lombardy in a state of siege, the arts existing under martial law, industry subject to every kind of arbitrary restriction, and the wealth which it might create only tempting the spoiler, what better can a reasonable man expect?

**PANORAMA**, Regent's Park—Admission 1/-—The original PANORAMA of LONDON BY DAY is exhibited daily from half-past Ten till Five. The extraordinary PANORAMA of LONDON BY NIGHT, from Seven till Ten. Music from Two till Five, and during the evening, several favourite Songs by Miss A. Poole.

**CYCLORAMA**, Albany Street—**LISBON AND EARTHQUAKE**.—This celebrated and unique Moving Panorama representing the destruction of Lisbon by Earthquake in 1755, is exhibited daily, 1/- admission; Evening, 1/- admission; 12/-; Children and Schools, half-price to either exhibition.

**ST. PETERSBURG and CONSTANTINOPLE** (additional Pictures) are exhibited immediately preceding the new **DIORAMA** of the OCEAN MAIL to INDIA and GOLD-FIELDS of AUSTRALIA.—Daily, at 3 and 8. Admission, 1/-; Stalls, 2/-; Reserved Seats, 3/-; Children, Half-price.—**ROYAL GALLERY of ILLUSTRATION**, 14, Regent Street.

**PHOTOGRAPHIC INSTITUTION**.—A highly interesting EXHIBITION of PHOTOGRAPHIC VIEWS from Rome, Venice, Switzerland, the South of France, and every part of England, is NOW OPEN. Admission, 6d.—Photographic Institution, 105, New Bond Street.

**GOLD NUGGETS** at the GREAT GLOBE.—A Large Collection of AUSTRALIAN GOLD, together with Rocks, Minerals, and Various Stones of Australia at Mr. WYLD'S LARGE MODEL of the EARTH, Leicester Square. Lectures hourly upon every subject of Geographical Science.—Open daily from 10 to 10. Children under 12 years of age and Schools, half-price.

**AZTEC LILLIPIANS**, at the MARIONETTE THEATRE, Lowther Arcade, Strand. Open every Day and Evening. The immense crowds who daily fill these curious and interesting rooms, have caused the Guardians of Health to order to accommodate the Public have altered the hours of exhibition as follows.—Morning exhibition, 11 till 1; Afternoon, 3 till 5; Evening, 7 till 10.—Admission, 1/-; Reserved Seats, 2/-; The incredible number of 37,000 persons have seen and looked with wonder on the Aztecs during the last two weeks at the Marionette Theatre.

**MR. ALBERT SMITH'S MONT BLANC**.—EVERY EVENING, at Eight o'clock, except Saturday—Stalls, 3/- (which can be secured at the Box-office every day, from Eleven to Four); Area, 2/-; Gallery, 1/- A Morning Performance every Tuesday and Saturday, at Three o'clock.—Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly.

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**ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—PATRON: H.H. PRINCE ALBERT.—LAST WEEK of the FIRST PART of the LECTURE on "THE THAMES," by GEORGE BUCKLAND, Esq., assisted by Miss Blanche Young, with APPROPRIATE SONGS and DISSOLVING SCENERY. The Second Part commences on the 5th of September.—Lectures: By J. B. PYNE, and P. BACLAUGH, with ELECTRIC MORNINGS and EVENINGS. By Dr. BACLAUGH with ELECTRIC GILDING and SILVERING.—THE LANCASHIRE SEWING MACHINE exhibited in USE and explained Daily.—Open Mornings and Evenings. Admission, 1s.; Schools, and Children under Ten years of age, Half-price.**

MEETING FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.  
THURS. Zoological, 3.

### FINE ARTS

#### NEW PUBLICATIONS.

*Egypt, Nubia, Palestine and Syria.* Photographic Pictures collected during the years 1849, 1850 and 1851. By Maxime Du Camp. Gambart & Co.

The admirable drawings of Mr. David Roberts have long since made us familiar, in the most artistic manner, with the principal historical sites of which the text-books are Herodotus, Josephus, and the Scriptures; but there yet remained room for further illustration,—chiefly with reference to the remoter monuments of Egypt and Nubia,—and the present work supplies what Mr. Roberts has left untouched. There is a speciality, moreover, in "photographic pictures" which gives them as recorders of fact peculiar claims on public attention: this is, the certain truth of their delineation. Where the hand and the mind of the painter are at work together, a picturesque result is as much looked for as fidelity of detail: indeed, however careful an artist's sketches, we are usually accustomed to believe that something of the severity of truth has yielded to the necessities or the seductions of composition. But Photographic drawing, if it have any value, consists in making plain to our senses the actual, unadorned facts of the thing represented; we demand from it that nothing should be heightened for effect,—and, on the other hand, we are content with nothing short of fac-simile resemblance. When the subject is blurred by indistinctness, as was so frequently the case in the earlier experiments in Photography, the art itself is comparatively valueless. The essential quality of clearness, which has been more rapidly attained in France than in England, is eminently characteristic of those plates in M. Du Camp's work which more particularly require it:—we speak, at least, of such as are before us. They are six in number, and are re-produced from views in Middle and Upper Egypt, Thebes and Nubia. The most striking in their development of the uses of Photography are the following.—'Thebes, Sculptures of the Throne of the Colossus.' The figures here are, the Upper Nile crowned with papyrus, and the Lower Nile crowned with lotus; with which emblems of their respective districts they are surrounding the Symbol of Power. The cartouches are inscribed: "The Sun, the Lord of Justice;" and "Amenoph, Director of Power." The closest inspection of this plate fails to disturb the idea that the subject is impressed on the paper.—'Nubia, Grand Temple of Isis at Philae, Dromos and Pylones.' This picture gives a view of the eastern colonnade of the Dromos; the capitals of the columns which supported it being beautifully sculptured, and, as is the case in our own early ecclesiastical architecture, all dissimilar in pattern. The colonnade forms the entrance to the chapel of Esculapius (Smotupph of the Egyptians, the son of Ptah and Hathor), which was dedicated by Ptolemy Epiphanes. On the Pylones are represented Ptolemy Philometer offering prisoners to Isis and Horus. This monument bears the names of three sovereigns:—the narrow doorway between the Pylones having been constructed in the reign of Nectabenus the First. The whole subject is filled with interesting details.—A view of the second Pylon, on a larger scale, exhibits Ptolemy Euergetes the Second consecrating the Temple to Horus and Isis. The cartouches signify "God the resplendent substance of Ptah, approved by Biris," and "Ptolemaios living for ever beloved of Ptah."—'Nubia. The two Speos,' close to the banks of the Nile, the larger of which is half buried beneath the accumulation of sand; what remains

visible of it is, however, very distinctly marked.—Such are these excerpts from M. Du Camp's large work, which is to consist altogether of 125 plates. That 112 of them are dedicated to the monuments of Egypt alone sufficiently shows how important an addition they must make to our knowledge of hieroglyphical sculpture.

*Sydney Harbour, New South Wales, with Government House and Fort Macquarie.—Emigrants Arriving.* Nos. I. and II. By O. W. Brierley, Esq. Ackermann & Co.

We have rarely met with two engravings more beautifully and truthfully given. The great difficulty is, to find lithographers who understand rendering clear the effects of drawings, or preserving the delicacy of the originals in all their parts. The absence of this quality gives often a coarseness to the engraving for which the artist is apt to be held responsible. In the prints before us greater attention has been bestowed on the gradation of the tints and the harmony of colour than is usual in lithographs.—The author, although an amateur artist, is scarcely to be surpassed in marine sketches.

*The Lake Scenery of England.* Painted by J. B. Pyne; engraved by W. Gauci. Part II. Manchester, Agnew & Sons.

FOUR more plates are here added to the work whose commencement we described a few months ago. Like the former, they are characterized by freedom in the original drawings, and firmness and delicacy in the lithographic copies. The descriptive text which accompanies the plates is of the same quality as before, even to the peculiarity of anticipating criticism. What more could we say of the fine view of 'Hawes Water and Wallerigill Force' than the editor himself has said?—"The rocks and falling waters are rendered with great truth and power: we see the rush and almost hear the sound." If we are not quite so enthusiastic as this writer is, we may at all events agree with him when he tells us that "there are few more picturesque views in the whole district." Mrs. Radcliffe is amongst those who have thought so, and she has placed her opinion on record. But beautiful as the scenery is, we learn that Hawes Water is seldom visited, and that Wallerigill Force is almost unknown. Yet it has more than ordinary attractions; for besides the beauty which it reveals by day, a part of the lake—a long, narrow promontory—is "said to be" haunted,—the ghost being that of James Lowther, the first Earl of Lonsdale, whose spirit returns in "the glimpses of the moon" to gaze on the vast possessions which their owner, in all probability, so reluctantly quitted.

'The Vale of Keswick, Bassenthwaite Lake, and the River Greta,' afford scope for another burst of critical eloquence:—"The artist has thrown a golden halo over this city of the poets; the god of day dazzles the spectator with his beams, and enriches the landscape with a dreamy grandeur." Mr. Pyne's colours may have achieved this result, but it was not within the compass of Mr. Gauci's lithography to do so: yet what could be done he has accomplished, and the plate is remarkable for the mellowness of its tone. 'Windermere, after the Regatta,' is the next view;—and "we gather from the natural phenomena, so faithfully rendered, that the pleasure-seekers have had a favourable day for their enjoyment."—The last plate is, 'Derwent Water,'—uncriticized, but well described.

*Bunyan's Pilgrim.* Designed by the Rev. D. Wight, and drawn by H. Billings. Boston, Jewett & Co.

THIS is a singular engraving, in the line manner, representing the entire 'Progress,' from one end of the allegory to the other; and it is executed on so large a scale as to admit of all the phases of the eventful journey being carefully rendered. As a work of Art it has no very high pretensions, save in the manipulation of the engraving, which is delicate and forcible by turns; but as an ingenious mode of placing before the absorbed reader the leading incidents of Bunyan's immortal volume, it deserves no common praise. Amongst a particular class it will, without doubt, be highly popular.

*Illustrated Record of the Industry of all Nations. New York Exhibition.* 1853.

SIMILAR in appearance to the *Art-Journal* of London, but wholly confined to wood engravings,—the first two numbers of this work form the commencement of a volume which is to contain some four hundred illustrations of the most note-worthy objects in the New York Crystal Palace. We learn from the description of the architectural plans that the design for the building sent in by Sir Joseph Paxton—a view of which is given—could not be accepted on account of the shape and limited dimensions of the plot of ground on which the New York Palace was to be erected.

—The principal features of that which was actually constructed we have already described for our readers. The other objects selected for illustration in the numbers now published consist for the most part of works of Art or of domestic use artistically ornamented. We perceive amongst them the Swiney Cup, which was executed in silver by Messrs. Garrard, from the designs of Mr. Macfie, R.A.,—a copy of the Amazon group by Kiss,—copies of the Harwich and other Vases,—Thordwaldsen's Ganymede, Pradier's Undine,—Wyatt's Apollo,—and the bust of the Proserpine of Hiram Powers. They are executed in a respectable manner,—and will eventually form a very interesting memorial to our American brethren of what in that young country they were able in 1853 to accomplish in the cause of Art and Industry.

*FINE-ART GOSSIP.*—We have a paragraph or two of Gossip from Naples.—The Prince of Syracusa, who so meritoriously distinguished himself during last winter by his interesting excavations at Cumæ, is now making his "villetta" at Sorrento, and breaking up the ground in that interesting neighbourhood. He has chosen the site of the Greek city for the scene of his labours. As yet, however, nothing important has been discovered. The Prince has sold all the objects which were found last year at Cumæ to a private museum at Rome. The excavations will be resumed at Cumæ in the winter.

This year is the centenary of the great annual religio-military Feast of Pië di Grotta. It takes place on the 8th of September, and a monument to commemorate it is in progress of erection. Speaking of monuments, I may notice another, in the form of a Latin address by the Cavalier Quaranta on the occasion of the recovery of the Emperor of Austria. This monument, however, derives its only importance from the terms in which it is noticed by the Government journal,—terms which are singularly amusing and illustrative of the style of our Journalist. "The King of the Two Sicilies," it says, "by whose side sits . . . another Maria-Teresa, bright star of the Austrian Crown, partook of the common grief and the common joy [alluding to the wound inflicted on the Emperor of Austria and his cure]; it was meet, therefore, that an enduring monument should record the joyful termination of the horrible event, and this monument is that which has been dictated by Commendatore Quaranta. . . . We must observe in the dedicatory epistle to his Majesty our Lord those sincere sentiments of loyal devotion, united with that deep affection towards a monarch who is the idol of his people, for the virtues which adorn him. The panegyric of Trajan by Pliny is one of the most splendid gems of antiquity transmitted to us intact, spite of the destructive power of all-devouring Time,—which shows us that the eulogium of an excellent Prince, made by one who is at once a good writer and a faithful subject, does not perish but descends to the latest posterity."

—Who has the greatest reason to be grateful for the implied compliment, His Majesty of the Two Sicilies or Commendatore Quaranta?

Some years since, a fine headless marble statue of the Emperor Tiberius was discovered in the Island of Capri, in some ground belonging to Signor Arcucci. It was purchased for the Vatican collection, where it now is. Near the same site, within the last few months, what is supposed to be the head of the statue has been discovered. It now lies in a private house:—having been seen by a few

of the islanders only, amongst whom it of course excites no curiosity.

#### MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

**ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.**—The past season has been, musically, a disappointing one. Of the three operas produced, Signor Verdi's 'Rigoletto' is the only one that can be said to have succeeded, owing to Signor Ronconi's great power as an actor, to the horrible nature of the story, to the ingenious and complicated scenery of Mr. Beverly, and to the favour that the world of fashion has seen fit to extend to Madame Bosio,—at best, a neat and elegant singer, with no power as an actress,—a pale, water-colour sketch (as it were) of Madame Persiani.—The ladies new to London—Madame Medori and Madame Tedesco—have made little way with the public; while Mdlle. Nantier-Didié, though agreeable and promising, is but a weak substitute for Mdlles. Albini and Angri,—and Madame Julienne has not made good such position as she gained in 1852. The rank of the gentlemen, however, has been acceptably reinforced by Signor Belletti. On the whole, in spite of its numerical strength, we hardly remember a more essentially undramatic and mediocre company; and the consequence has been, that not a single opera, from first to last of the season, has been so well mounted as in former years, when, besides Madame Grisi and Madame Castellane, the *Royal Italian Opera* troupe included Mesdames Persiani and Viardot, and Mdlles. Albini and Corbari.

It is said, on good authority, that Madame Grisi's approaching departure for America is equivalent to her retirement from our Opera stage.—Such an event must not pass without some attempt being made to do justice to a lady who has held longer and more unbroken sway over the English than most musical—and than many *amusical*—queens have done. Twenty years of supremacy in the same capital for a dramatic *soprano* singer, as times go, and as Music stands, constitute a phenomenon of rare occurrence. This command over one and the same public maintained by Madame Grisi has not been so much a case of authority wielded by genius, as of satisfaction excited by physical gifts exhibited in combination with those impulses to which the many respond readily, and which the few do not resist. Not merely was Madame Grisi one of the most sumptuously handsome women that ever trod the stage,—not merely did she possess a strong, sonorous, sweet, extensive voice, a legitimate dramatic *soprano*, ready at its owner's call, seldom disabled, and capable of conveying almost every emotion that its owner pleased to imagine,—but her performances displayed an essential fitness for the theatre, and a power of fairly carrying through every part which she undertook, in conjunction (when the characters suited her) with those bursts of spontaneous emotion and energy which are more popular than the sublimer and finer dramatic qualities of a Pasta. If Madame Grisi originated little during her career—'I Puritani' being the only opera in which she can be said to have "created" a part,—she executed music in almost every style, and failed rarely. She has been charged with languor and indifference in classical opera, but this was mostly confined to those portions of her task where the dramatic spirit languished.—On the other hand, it must be noted that while she was on our stage no other *Norma* or *Lucrezia Borgia* than herself had a chance of being looked at or listened to in England:—since with all the enormous *prestige* of Mdlle. Lind's reputation, and the great attraction of that lady's musical genius and accomplishments, she was totally unable during her short reign to maintain herself on the ground occupied by her rival, and wisely shrank back into characters of the second rank, in which her peculiarities of voice, originality of style, and simplicity of expression gave her the advantage.—As completing this farewell sketch of Madame Grisi, it must be recorded, that after studying and gaining her successes in the slight and tuneful music of the Italian opera composers, she proved herself able, at that period of an artist's life when the generality content themselves with going the round of old triumphs, to

extend her repertory by entering the exhausting domain of grand French opera.—She must, lastly, be credited throughout her dramatic career with having shown due respect for herself by respecting her public. We do not remember a solitary instance of her presenting herself unprepared and incorrect in her music; and the number of apologies, postponements, &c. &c., to which she has given occasion, is small without precedent in the history of the Italian *prima donna*. Viewed in this light, and the above combination of qualities rated at their just value, we feel that our chances of seeing a successor to Madame Grisi are few or none,—and that her place in the history of Opera is among the brightest, if not precisely among the highest, of its stars.

The retirement of Signor Mario is, however, a heavier loss:—since, so far as regards the state of his voice, it is a totally unnecessary measure. With a little more care,—with a little more respect for his obligations as a public servant, (distinct from his obligingness as a private favourite,)—we might have looked to him as to the *Almaviva*, the *Don Ottavio*, the *Nemorino*, the *Elvino*, the *Arturo*, and even the *Raoul* in 'Les Huguenots,' for the next ten years. While in the annals of May Fair and Belgrave Signor Mario will live as the most fascinating singer of *romances* that ever trod "velvet pile," and as a courteous and courtly recipient of homages such as have been hardly paid to any singer since the days when "the Ladies' Lamentation for the loss of Senesino" was done into a ballad, with its moving etched vignette,—in the chronicle of Opera, he can be recorded only as possessing a charming voice, and being a (of late) passionate actor,—but not as a complete vocalist, and not as even a respectable musician. We part from him with regret; but it is a regret in which vexation has a share, since we feel that his has been a case of power trifled with quite as much as of power turned to good account.

On the whole, our immediate prospects are not cheering. Possibly, however, *Her Majesty's Theatre* may next year be brought to bear in opposition on the *Royal Italian Opera*; in which case the best of the best must be again sought for,—and not, as this year, the largest variety of mediocrities, just good enough to be endured by the public.

**MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.**—Ended though the London season be, there is still lingering London music to be heard:—some, too, which from its quality would in many other capitals be thought worthy of a place in the main banquet, instead of merely figuring as part of the dessert served when so many of the guests have quitted the table. Emphatic confirmation of our late remarks on English opera is conveyed in the fact, that even now—at this hottest, dearest, most solated, and most satiated time of the metropolitan year—when pleasure-seekers are pouring down to our ports, or up to our moors and lakes, at the rate of hundreds a day,—the operatic venture of Mr. Allcroft at the Lyceum made with Mr. and Mrs. Reeves, Miss Harland and Mr. Weiss, is stated to have been most profitable.—The Drury Lane performances, we learn, are virtually to be considered as a trial of the company engaged to sing in Italian at Edinburgh during the coming winter. The three principal artists concerned in the performance of 'Der Freischütz'—Madame Caradori (of whom we must speak on some future occasion) and Herren Reichardt and Formes—were most favourably received, and the house was crowded even to overflowing.—But, besides these theatrical doings, an organ performance of Bach's music was given by the *Bach Society* on Monday.—Some Swedish strangers, too—most innocent they must have been of all idea of London times and seasons—Mdlle. Louise Michal, Madame Betty, and Monsieur Isidor Dannstrom, were to offer a benefit concert on Saturday last.—It is to be noted, that a giver of those mixed entertainments in which the Americans delight, and to which the English are not averse,—we mean Mr. Henry Russell—is announcing a farewell series of performances.

Chamber music has lost another accomplished and energetic supporter in England by the death of Lord Saltoun; who has long held a foremost place among our amateurs,—and was himself, we learn from our contemporaries, a performer on the violin and guitar. He, too, like Colonel Hawker, whose decease we noticed last week, was, in his time, a brave and distinguished soldier.

It says something for the extension of popular music in the North, that the City Hall, Glasgow, is immediately to be benefited by the introduction of the great concert organ which has just been finished and exhibited in London by its builders, Messrs. Gray & Davison. Our contemporaries state, that the promise of "novelties and improvements of construction" which was held out by the card of invitation to a private hearing of this instrument, is amply fulfilled by the reality. The old disqualification of immense heaviness of touch seems to be entirely overcome.—Now, will the citizens of St. Mungo's capital give their organ a really good player?

How hard it is for the amateur, though he be as "meek as Moses," to write Rossini's name without adding a note of *irritation*,—every new anecdote which reaches England concerning the proceedings of that silent oracle reminds us. "Did you hear," writes a Correspondent in Italy, "of a concert given in Florence, some time ago, made up of Rossini's music exclusively? It was fresh and satisfying, indeed,—but there was one sad disappointment. The bill had announced a MS. Chorus of *soprani*, 'conceded by the Author.' On the day of performance, the chorus styled itself 'of Bayaderes.' One wondered and hoped. Alas! a fatal triangle accompaniment began, and then the old style of Auber-like thing one has seen so many shawls wave to and fro point at:—very good, had it come twenty years ago, but now quite of another quality. Next day, the secret was out! The MS. was just an old subject from 'Maometto Secondo,' left out when that opera was recast as 'L'Assedio di Corinto.' So little does the man care for a whole city full of friends and lovers being sorry for his declining faculty, for four-and-twenty hours!"

#### MISCELLANEA

**Discovery of Amber.**—Pieces of amber have for some time past been found on the coast of Courland, but in such small quantities that it was hardly considered worth while to collect them. In recently cutting a canal for draining a lake near that of Anserche, on the eastern coast of Courland, between 57° 10' and 58° 20' of north latitude, and not far from the Gulf of Riga, pieces of amber were found,—and, on the search being continued, more pieces were picked up on the banks of the Lake of Anserche itself. At first the discovery was kept secret, as the lakes belong to the crown,—and the amber was secretly sold for small sums by the persons who found it. But the inhabitants of the adjacent villages gradually became acquainted with the fact, and they made a practice of going en masse on Sundays to collect the amber. The priests, annoyed at seeing the churches abandoned, made inquiries as to the cause, and, on learning it, made it known to the authorities. The quantity of amber already sold by the peasants to Jew dealers has brought them in not less than 4,000 silver roubles (the rouble is 4 francs 5 cents), but that is considerably less than its real value. The pieces of amber are for the most part transparent, and some of them are so large that they fetch from five to six roubles. In some of the pieces winged insects have been found.—*Daily News*.

**To CORRESPONDENTS.**—R. C. B.—Iota—F. G.—Aliquis—J. H. R.—T. W. R.—received.

**A Weekly Reader.**—This Correspondent will see in our columns of to-day, that he, or she, is right as to the celestial visitant.

A. W. writes to express his objection to our estimate of the Report of the Committee of the House of Commons on the National Gallery, as being a able document. It is superfluous to say, that our Correspondent, like every other reader of the *Athenæum*, is perfectly entitled to form his own judgment,—but we claim the right to do the same. We repeat our opinion, that the Report in question is an able document: though we dissent from certain of its conclusions,—and shall have to say so more fully at the proper time.

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LIFE ASSURANCES may be effected upon Equal, Half Premium, Increasing or Decreasing Scales; also by Single Payments, or Payments for limited periods. Tables have been specially constructed for the ARMY, NAVY, EAST INDIA COMPANY, and MERCHANT SERVICES; also for persons voyaging to, or residing in, any part of the world.

N.B.—No charge for Policy Stamps.

E. OSBORNE SMITH, Actuary and Secretary.  
71, King William-street, Mansion House.

**THE MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY,**  
20, King-street, Cheapside.—Established 1834.

NOTICE TO LIFE ASSUREES, July 6, 1853.—In consequence of the late reduction in stamp by the new Stamp Duties Act, the Directors have resolved not to charge the policy stamp on policies issued after this date.

Assurances in force June 30, 1853 ..... £37,000

Income ..... 40,300 per annum.

Investment Capital ..... 912,000.

The Premiums are annually divided among the members, in proportion to the premiums paid, accumulated at compound interest. The effect of this mode of division will be seen in the following table:—

Year when effected.	Age on Assured.	Sum Assured.	Original Premium.	Additions.		Equivalent Reduced Premiums.	
				1852	1853	1852	1853
1834	29	1,000	24 6 0	325	338	15 12 6	
	43	71 13 4	737 846	41 9 5	38 14 6		
"	50	2,000	90 13 4	922 957	41 15 11	36 9 6	

SAMUEL BROWN, Actuary.

**LOANS, on Personal or other approved Security.**—Persons desirous of obtaining ADVANCES without delay on favourable terms, and repayable by easy instalments extending over a lengthened period, are invited to JOIN the BRITISH MUTUAL SUBSCRIPTION LOAN AND INSURANCE CLASSES, established in 1837, with the British Mutual Life Office. Prospects, Report, and every information may be obtained on application at the British Mutual Life Office, 17, New Bridge-street, Blackfriars. Rules 6d. each copy, or 1s. per post.

CHARLES JAMES THICKE, Secretary.

**ARGUS LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.**  
39, THORNGMORTON-STREET, BANK; and 14, PALL-MALL.

THOMAS FARCOMBE, Esq. Alderman, Chairman.

WILLIAM LEAF, Esq. Deputy-Chairman.

Richard E. Arden, Esq.  
Edward Bates, Esq.  
Thomas Campion, Esq.  
James Clift, Esq.

J. Humphry, Esq. Ald.  
Robert Ingley, Esq.  
Thomas Kelly, Esq. Ald.  
Jeremiah Pilcher, Esq.

Lewis Pocock, Esq.

Physician.—Dr. Jefferson, 2, Finsbury-square.

Surgeon.—W. Coulson, Esq. 2, Frederick-street.

Constituted in 1837, a Mutual Society of 1,000.

ADVANTAGES OF ASSURING WITH THIS COMPANY.

The premiums are on the lowest scale consistent with security. The Assured are protected by an ample subscribed capital—an assurance fund of £350,000, invested on mortgage and in the Government stocks—and an income of £7,000 a year.

Premiums to Assure £100.

With Profits. Whole Term.

Age.	One Year.	Seven Years.	With Profits.	Without Profits.
20	£0 17 8	£0 19 1	£1 15 10	£1 11 10
30	1 1 8	1 2 7	2 5 5	2 0 7
40	1 5 0	1 6 9	3 0 7	2 14 10
50	1 14 1	1 19 10	4 6 8	4 0 11
60	3 2 4	3 17 0	6 12 9	6 0 10

Mutual Branch.

Assurers on the Bonus system are entitled, at the end of five years, and afterwards annually, to participate in four-fifths, or 80 per cent. of the profits. The profit assigned to each Policy will be added to the sum assured, applied in reduction of the annual premium, or received in cash. At the first division a return of 30 per cent. in cash, and the premium paid will be deducted; the sum remaining will be applied in reduction of the annual premiums for life of 34 to 11 per cent., according to the age, and a reversionary increase varying from 66 to 28 per cent. on the premiums, or from 1 to 3 per cent. on the sum assured. One-half of the "Whole Term" Premium may remain for credit for seven years, or one-third of the Premium for credit for eight years, or one-half of the Premium for credit for nine years, or a portion of the Premium for credit for ten years.

Prospects, forms of proposal, &c., with every other information, may be obtained at the Company's Office.

EDWARD BATES, Resident Director.

Now published, and to be had free on application.

**THE FIFTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT OF**

**THE SCOTTISH PROVIDENT INSTITUTION,** containing full details as to its Progress and Present Position, and as to the First Division of Profits which has now been made.

SPECIAL NOTICE.—Intending Life Assurers, and Policy-holders in other Companies, are invited to examine the Rules, Principles, and Provisions of the SCOTTISH PROVIDENT INSTITUTION, the only Society in which the advantages of Mutual Assurance can be obtained at moderate premiums. Since its establishment in 1837 it has issued upwards of 6,000 Policies, containing Assurances to the amount of £350,000, a tenth more than any other Society in the country. The more modesty and disinterestedness of the Commission has been paid for it. The whole regulations and administration of the Society are liberal as is consistent with safety and right principle.

Every information afforded, either personally or by letter, on application to

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**OFFICE AND LIBRARY FURNITURE.**—  
TO BE SOLD, Secondhand and New, Bookcases, Tables, Chairs, &c.; Bedroom Furniture, the enamelled japanned to imitate Maple, Birch, Bamboo, and other Woods. Price moderate exceedingly durable, and easily kept clean, at the Furniture Ware, house, 32, LITTLE MOORFIELDS, Finsbury.

**DENT'S PATENT CHRONOMETERS,**  
CLOCKS, WATCHES, and MARINER'S COMPASS.—  
FREDERICK DENT, Clockmaker to the Queen and His Royal Highness Prince Albert, begs to announce that, under the will of the late E. J. Dent, he has succeeded exclusively to all his patent rights and business at 61, St. James's, 34, Royal Exchange, and the Turbine Clock and Compass Factory, at Somerset-Wharf, Strand.

**THE ROYAL EXHIBITION.**—A valuable, newly-invented very small powerful Waistsight Pocket-glass, the size of a Walnut, to discern minute objects at a distance of from four to five miles, which is found to be invaluable for YACHTING, &c., to SPORTS, &c., YACHTING and GAMING. Price 12. 10s. sent free.—TELESCOPES.—A new and important INVENTION in TELESCOPES, possessing such extraordinary powers, that some 34 inches, with an extra eye-piece, will show distinctly Jupiter's Moons, Saturn's Ring, and the Four Stars. They exceed every other kind and are of great interest to Astronomers, Showmen, Military Pursuits, &c.—Opera and Race-course Glasses with wonderful powers; a minute object can be clearly seen, from 10 to 12 miles distant.—Invaluable newly-invented preserving Spectacles. Invisible and all kinds of Acoustic Instruments for relief of extreme deafness.—Messrs. B. & S. SONNEN, Opticians and Aurists, 39, Albemarle-street, Piccadilly, opposite the York Hotel.

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THE ENVELOPE PAPER admits of three clear pages for correspondence, each measuring 5½ by 8 inches forms its own envelope and identifies the contents with the address and post-mark. Price 3d. per ream, self-sealing, and perfectly secretive.—F. W. RALPH, Manufacturer, 36, Throgmorton-street, Bank.

**THE BEST SHOW of IRON BEDSTEADS**  
in the KINGDOM is WILLIAM S. BURTON'S. He has TWO VERY LARGE ROOMS, which are devoted to the EXCLUSIVE SHOW of IRON and BRASS BEDSTEADS and CHILDREN'S COTS with appropriate Bedding and Mattresses. Common Bedsteads from 12s. 6d.; Portable Folding Bedsteads from 12s. 6d.; Patent Iron Bedsteads fitted with dove-tail joints and patent packing, from 12s. 6d.; and Cots from 2s. each. Handsome Ornamental Iron and Brass Bedsteads, in great variety, from 2s. to 13s. 13d.

WILLIAM S. BURTON has TEN LARGE SHOW-ROOMS (all communicating), exclusive of the Shop, devoted solely to the show of GENERAL FURNISHING IRONMONGERY (including Cutlery, Nickel Silver, Plated and Japanned Ware), so arranged and classified that Purchasers may easily and at once make their selections.

Catalogues with Engravings sent (per post) free. The money returned for every article not approved of.

5, GOSWELL-STREET (corner of Newman-street); Nos. 1 & 2, NEW-MAN-STREET; and 4, PERRY'S-PLACE.

**DO YOU WANT LUXURANT HAIR,**  
WHISKERS, &c.?—EMILY DEAN'S GRINNILENE has been many years established as the only preparation that can be relied upon for the restoration of the hair in baldness from any cause, preventing the hair falling off, strengthening weak hair, and checking greyness, and for the production of whiskers, mustachios, eyebrows, &c. in three or four weeks, with certainty. It is an excellent preparation for the skin, and will be found to be of great service. It will not change colour or decay, and will be found superior to any teeth ever before used. This method does not require the extraction of roots, or any painful operation, and will support and preserve teeth that are loose, and is guaranteed to restore articulation and mastication. Decayed teeth rendered sound and artificial restoration.

7, Baker-street, Portman-square.  
**PRIZE MEDAL to CAISTOR'S SADDLES**  
(MILITARY and PARK) and HARNESS.  
SADDLERY, Harness, Horse Clothing, Blankets, Brushes, Sponges, and every article used in the Dressing of Horses. Prices, from 20 to 30 per cent. below those usually charged for credit. Materials, Workmanship, and Style not to be surpassed.

A detailed List will be sent free by post, or may be had on application at CAISTOR'S, 7, Baker-street, Portman-square, where the Exhibition Saddles and Harness may be seen.

**DAVIS'S RECONNOITERING TELESCOPE.**—To be had of the Maker, JOHN DAVIS, Optician, Depty.—Price of the Telescope sent free by post, 32s. The Telescope, with additional Eye-piece and Stand, sufficiently powerful to show Saturn's Ring &c.

A simple and efficient MICROSCOPE, well adapted for Botanical and kindred pursuits, price 2s. This Instrument has a Condenser and two other Lenses, Rough and Fine Adjustment, Apparatus, and Case.

**ELKINGTON and CO., PATENTEES of the ELECTRO PLATE,**  
MANUFACTURING SILVERSMITHS, BRONZISTS, &c. Respectfully urge upon Purchasers to observe that each article bears the mark, "E. & CO. under a crown," as no others are warranted by them.

The fact frequently set forth of articles being plated by "Elkington's Process," affords no guarantee of the quality, as numerous manufacturers are licensed by them to use the Process, but without restriction in the mode of manufacture, the metal employed, or the quality of the articles plated. The Goldsmiths and Silversmiths were honoured at the late Great Exhibition by an award of the "Council Medal," and may be obtained at either Establishment.

22, REGENT-STREET, } LONDON;  
45, MOORGATE-STREET, } BIRMINGHAM;  
NEW-MAN-STREET, } BIRMINGHAM.  
Estimates, Drawings, and Prices sent free by post.  
Replating and Gilding as usual.

A CLEAR COMPLEXION.

**GODFREY'S EXTRACT of ELDER**

**FLOWERS,** strongly recommended for Softening, Improving, Beautifying, and Preserving the SKIN, giving it a blooming and charming appearance, before or after a warm bath. It will completely remove Tan, Sun-burn, Redness, &c., and by its balsamic and healing qualities render the skin soft, pliable, and free from dryness, scurf, humour, pimple, or eruption; and, by continuing its use only a short time, the skin will become and continue soft and smooth, and the complexion clear, can be perfectly restored in half a year. Price 2s. per oz. with directions for using it, by all Medicinal Venders and Perfumers.

A NEW DISCOVERY in TEETH.

**MR. HOWARD, SURGEON-DENTIST,** 52, FLEET-STREET, has introduced an ENTIRELY NEW DESCRIPTION of ARTIFICIAL TEETH, fixed without springs, wires, or ligatures. They are perfectly natural the teeth as not to be distinguished from the natural. It will be observed that the new teeth change colour or decay, and will be found superior to any teeth ever before used. This method does not require the extraction of roots, or any painful operation, and will support and preserve teeth that are loose, and is guaranteed to restore articulation and mastication. Decayed teeth rendered sound and artificial restoration.

63, FLEET-STREET. At home from Ten till Five.

**I NODOROUS CHAMBER COMMODES,** affording a great comfort to Invalids and to those in attendance. Prices: in handsome oak, 2s. 6d.; in an elegant mahogany inlaid. Also in easy arm-chairs, &c. Patentees, not to be distinguished from the natural. It will be observed that the new teeth change colour or decay, and will be found superior to any teeth ever before used. This method does not require the extraction of roots, or any painful operation, and will support and preserve teeth that are loose, and is guaranteed to restore articulation and mastication. Decayed teeth rendered sound and artificial restoration.

THE BEVALENTA ARABICA FOOD,

the only natural, pleasant, and effectual remedy (without medicine, purging, inconvenience, or expense, as it saves fifty times its cost in other remedies) for nervous, stomachic, intestinal, liver and bilious complaints; however deeply rooted, dyspepsia (indigestion), habitual constipation, diarrhoea, acidity, heartburn, flatulency, oppression of the heart, rheumatism, cramp, &c., in the skin, rheumatism, gout, dropsy, sickness at the stomach during pregnancy, &c., and under all other circumstances, debility in the aged as well as infants, fits, spasms, cramps, paralysis, &c. Dr. Wurster's Testimony.

DR. BARRY DU BARRY & CO.'S HEALTH-RESTORING FOOD for INVALIDS and INFANTS.

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